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WARRICK DUNN



JERIOUS NORWOOD

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HARRY SCULL JR.

**AFC**

**EAST**

- 1** NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS [12-4]
- 2** NEW YORK JETS [8-8]
- 3** BUFFALO BILLS [7-9]
- 4** MIAMI DOLPHINS [5-11]

**NORTH**

- 1** BALTIMORE RAVENS [11-5]
- 2** CINCINNATI BENGALS [10-6]
- 3** PITTSBURGH STEELERS [7-9]
- 4** CLEVELAND BROWNS [5-11]

**SOUTH**

- 1** INDIANAPOLIS COLTS [12-4]
- 2** JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS [9-7]
- 3** TENNESSEE TITANS [6-10]
- 4** HOUSTON TEXANS [5-11]

**WEST**

- 1** SAN DIEGO CHARGERS [11-5]
- 2** DENVER BRONCOS [10-6]
- 3** KANSAS CITY CHIEFS [9-7]
- 4** OAKLAND RAIDERS [4-12]

**DIVISION WINNERS** ▶ PATRIOTS • RAVENS • COLTS • CHARGERS

**WILD CARDS** ▶ BENGALS • BRONCOS

**NE PREPARED**





TOMASSO DE ROSA / SPORTPICS

NFC

#### EAST

- 1** PHILADELPHIA EAGLES [11-5]
- 2** DALLAS COWBOYS [9-7]
- 3** WASHINGTON REDSKINS [7-9]
- 4** NEW YORK GIANTS [6-10]

**DIVISION WINNERS** ▶ EAGLES • BEARS • SAINTS • SEAHAWKS

**WILD CARDS** ▶ COWBOYS • PANTHERS

#### NORTH

- 1** CHICAGO BEARS [11-5]
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- 2** SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS [8-8]
- 3** ST. LOUIS RAMS [7-9]
- 4** ARIZONA CARDINALS [5-11]

**SUPER BOWL XLIII**

**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS**

OVER

**NEW ORLEANS SAINTS**

# CTIONS

# 2005



# Kickoff 2007

**F**rom Sept. 6 at the RCA Dome to next Feb. 3 in Glendale, Ariz., there will be 523 NFL games that matter. We intend to help guide you through them, starting here. First, there are predictions, power rankings, looks at fantasy sophomores, players on the spot and 2008 draft prospects, plus a chat with the league's reigning MVP. Enjoy ...

## 10 things to watch for in '07

OVERVIEW

**I**t might not be Barry Bonds passing Hank Aaron on baseball's all-time home-run ledger, but a few noteworthy statistical marks figure to fall this season. In addition, we could see a franchise return to prominence, some big-name coaches plotting comebacks and harsher discipline for players breaking conduct rules — par for the course in what will be another fascinating season.

### ■ Favre will pass Marino — once easily, once barely

Unless Brett Favre's streak of 257 consecutive starts (including playoffs) comes to an unexpected end, he should surpass Dan Marino's touchdown pass total of

happen in Week 16 or 17, no doubt.

### ■ Manning eyes 40K, Unitas

Like Favre, Peyton Manning has a quarterback legend in his sights: Johnny Unitas. Manning needs only 2,654 passing yards to pass the Colts' legend and enter the top 10 passers of all time. Manning would become only the 11th quarterback to throw for more than 40,000 yards, and if he can get to 40,552, he'll pass Joe Montana for ninth on the list.

### ■ L.T.: halfway to Emmitt

With 9,176 yards rushing, LaDainian Tomlinson is almost exactly halfway to Emmitt Smith's all-time record of 18,355 — through six NFL seasons (95 games). According to the Elias Sports Bureau, L.T. could become only the third back to reach 10,000 yards in 100 games or fewer, joining Eric Dickerson (91) and Jim Brown (98).

### ■ Bears: Always Super Bowl bridesmaids?

It's one of those can't-ignore facts. Since '98, the Super Bowl runners-up has fin-

**BRETT FAVRE** needs to match his '06 numbers to pass Dan Marino's yardage total; **PEYTON MANNING** closes in on 40,000 yards and Johnny Unitas

ished the next season out of the playoffs in six of eight years. The Seahawks made the playoffs in '06 at 9-7, but it wasn't the campaign they expected. The Bears probably have enough talent to take advantage of the weaker NFC North Division. Could they be the kind of team that earns multiple Super Bowl berths and loses each time, à la the Bills of the 1990s?

### ■ Schedule offers intriguing possibilities

The possibility of having both an undefeated and a winless team came in earnest in '06. The Colts won their first nine



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420. Favre enters the season at 414. In order to become the all-time passing-yards leader, Favre must throw for 3,862 yards in what might be his final season. The past two seasons, he has thrown for 3,881 and 3,885 yards. If he does it, it will



games, after winning their first 13 in '05, and the Raiders and Lions each lost their first five. The chances of it happening in '07 look pretty slim, with the bad teams improving and good ones taking hits. But if you're a Ravens fan, you can't like this schedule: facing the Bengals twice, the Patriots and Colts in Baltimore, and the Chargers and Seahawks on the road. Ouch.

### ■ Cowher, Schottenheimer watch is on; Tuna, too?

Teams that might be looking for coaches already have thought about the possibility of wooing Bill Cowher, the most eligible prize out there, and Marty Schottenheimer, who's not a bad consolation prize. Both men could ask for front-office control, but if you're the Browns and you suffer a fifth straight losing season and eighth in nine years, don't you hand the keys to Cowher? He could be the NFL's first \$10 million coach. What about Martyball with the Giants? Another name to (always) watch — Bill Parcells. Sources say he's looking for a plum front-office position to take over. Don't be shocked if he's in play in Tampa Bay if Bruce Allen falls out of favor.

### ■ Could Goodell 'Pete Rose' a player?

Based on the penalties handed down to Pacman Jones and Chris Henry, it wouldn't be shocking if commissioner Roger Goodell gives a lifetime ban to the next hooligan player who plays fast and loose with NFL rules.

### ■ 49ers return to prominence

Could the 49ers rise to glory again? Alex Smith and Frank Gore lead an intriguing offense, and Mike Nolan continues to build the "D." Bill Walsh took a similar approach nearly 30 years ago.

### ■ Critical year for Redskins' Gibbs

He won't lose his bust in Canton, but could Joe Gibbs alter his place in history with another poor season? He already has done damage with two disastrous seasons in three years.

### ■ Madden '08 curse?

Since '99, nearly every player on the cover of the world-popular Madden NFL video game (most recently Shaun Alexander) has fallen victim and suffered — usually an injury — the next season. Vince Young, the '08 cover boy, should be nervous.

— ERIC EDHOLM



## PRESEASON POWER RANKINGS

RANK / TEAM	SB ODDS*	THE SKINNY
1  NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS	4-1	Belichick & Co. restocked the shelves with Adalius Thomas, Donté Stallworth and Randy Moss.
2  INDIANAPOLIS COLTS	4-1	Narrowly missed out on the top perch after impressive Super Bowl run got the monkey off Manning's back.
3  SAN DIEGO CHARGERS	5-1	Most NFL insiders would agree this is the most complete roster the league has to offer.
4  CHICAGO BEARS	10-1	Turmoil-filled offseason, sparked by SB loss, Lovie's wait for a new deal and Lance Briggs' bitterness.
5  NEW ORLEANS SAINTS	12-1	Did Sean Payton and crew set the bar too high with last year's heroics? We don't think so.
6  PHILADELPHIA EAGLES	15-1	People tend to forget Donovan McNabb was having an MVP type of year before his knee injury.
7  DENVER BRONCOS	15-1	Shanahan finally gets his workhorse runner in Travis Henry; Jay Cutler brings vertical passing game back.
8  BALTIMORE RAVENS	12-1	Departures in free agency will hurt, but defense will be fine and McGahee considered an upgrade at RB.
9  CINCINNATI BENGALS	12-1	Seemingly the same old story in Cincy: Can the defense do enough when it matters?
10  SEATTLE SEAHAWKS	13-1	One of the more injury-riddled teams from last year doesn't feel it deserves to be overlooked.
11  JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS	22-1	Two starting-caliber running backs, the second-ranked defense and all kinds of questions at quarterback.
12  DALLAS COWBOYS	13-1	Wade Phillips gets his dream job but also gets to deal with the soap opera that is T.O.
13  CAROLINA PANTHERS	25-1	Panthers underwhelmed in '06, suddenly have competition for Delhomme in Texans castoff David Carr.
14  PITTSBURGH STEELERS	15-1	Mike Tomlin replaces "the Jaw," but emphasis on defense, running game remains the same.
15  NEW YORK JETS	20-1	"Mangenius" wowed the NFL in his first year. Addition of Bears RB Thomas Jones looks like a steal.
16  KANSAS CITY CHIEFS	40-1	Major upgrade at LB with Donnie Edwards, Napoleon Harris, but can QB Huard do it over the long haul?
17  SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS	25-1	Overspent for free-agent CB Nate Clements, but you have to like the building process by the bay.
18  GREEN BAY PACKERS	22-1	The team no one wanted to play at the end of '06 may have enough to get No. 4 back in the playoffs.
19  ST. LOUIS RAMS	30-1	Other than fantasy geeks, did anyone else know that Steven Jackson had 90 catches last year?
20  TENNESSEE TITANS	30-1	Somehow, this club went 8-8 in '06. Some guy named Vince had a little something to do with that.
21  ATLANTA FALCONS	60-1	Offensive guru Bobby Petrino has the ultimate QB project in Michael Vick.
22  WASHINGTON REDSKINS	30-1	The second Joe Gibbs era reaches Year Four; do Skins have too many holes to compete in this tough division?
23  NEW YORK GIANTS	25-1	Tik's retirement leaves a serious void. Young Eli needs a dose of consistency to reach the next level.
24  TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS	50-1	Gruden's boys are just 27-37 since taking the Super Bowl title in the 2002 season.
25  ARIZONA CARDINALS	30-1	Between young talent, sparkling stadium and new coaching regime, there is plenty to cheer about.
26  BUFFALO BILLS	60-1	Offseason unkind to Bills fans as Clements, McGahee, Fletcher and Spikes all departed.
27  DETROIT LIONS	75-1	Beleaguered franchise has just one winning season since '98 and six straight years of double-digit losses.
28  MIAMI DOLPHINS	40-1	Former Chargers O-coordinator Cam Cameron may have to lean on the "D" in his first year at the helm.
29  HOUSTON TEXANS	100-1	Cut their ties with Carr and are going with fresh-faced Matt Schaub to lead the franchise. No pressure there.
30  MINNESOTA VIKINGS	50-1	Defensive front is awfully stout, but question marks linger elsewhere, especially at QB and WR.
31  CLEVELAND BROWNS	100-1	If Crennel stumbles, could Martyball get a second calling from the Dawg Pound? What about Cowher?
32  OAKLAND RAIDERS	50-1	Talented, young defense ready to win now. But when will JaMarcus Russell be ready?

\* — Odds to win SB XLII as of May 2, courtesy of MGM MIRAGE Race & Sports Book

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**Pro Football** WEEKLY COM



# Kickoff 2007

## FANTASY Stock rising

You don't have to tell fantasy football owners how remarkable the NFL's rookie class of 2006 was. First-year players were found all over championship trophies, and several of them will see their value only rise in Year Two.

### QB JAY CUTLER | BRONCOS

Cutler came on to the scene later than Vince Young or Matt Leinart, but he demonstrated the smoothest transition of the three from a traditional passing perspective. In his first five NFL starts, the strong-armed QB threw for 200 yards per game and nine touchdowns vs. just five interceptions. He demonstrated a big-play rapport with explosive WR Javon Walker, welcomes two experienced pass catchers to Denver in TE Daniel Graham and slot WR Brandon Stokley and has emerging targets in second-year pros Brandon Marshall and Tony Scheffler. Cutler can't run with V.Y., but he's the most polished passer of the bunch and, thus, a more consistent fantasy play.

### RB JOSEPH ADDAI | COLTS

Addai took a backseat to Reggie Bush and Maurice Jones-Drew late last year, but he was notably the lone rookie rusher to

crack 1,000 yards. And he did so on just 226 carries, with Dominic Rhodes taking 187 of his own. With Rhodes now out of the picture, it's Addai's load to bear. With his hard-charging running style and very capable hands (10 catches in Super Bowl XLI), Indy's full-time gig could make Addai the first sophomore back off the fantasy draft board.

### RB LAURENCE MARONEY | PATRIOTS

The Patriots' offense has undergone a major overhaul with the addition of Randy Moss and several new receivers. But it's the departure of RB Corey Dillon and Moss' ability to stretch defenses that offer Maroney a huge opportunity. While sharing carries with Dillon and missing two games to injury, Maroney still impressed with seven touchdowns (one receiving) and 4.3 yards per carry. At his rookie pace, a conservative 250 carries would project to nearly

**LAURENCE MARONEY** will have every chance to run with the Pats' pushing load

1,100 rushing yards and nine total TDs — and his dynamic ability and the Pats' loaded offense indicate plenty of upside beyond that.

### RB-WR DEVIN HESTER | BEARS

Bears brass appears willing to thrill fantasy owners by converting the explosive Hester to offense in '07. The specifics of his role — pass-catching RB, slot WR, designated deep threat — are a work in progress, but his seven return TDs, including Super Bowl XLI's opening kickoff, suggest he doesn't need a ton of touches to make them count. If your league includes return scores for position players, his eligibility alone will be more important than his actual offensive contributions.



TOMASSO DE ROSA / SPORTSPICS

## LONDON CALLING

NFL travels across the pond during the regular season for first time

The NFL called. London answered. Then Londoners called and called, looking for a half-million tickets to watch the Dolphins and Giants play Oct. 28 at London's Wembley Stadium.

Dolphins-Giants will be the NFL's first regular-season game played overseas, but it is actually the league's second regular-season game held outside the United States — the first was in 2005 when the Cardinals hosted the 49ers in Mexico City, and referee Ed Hochuli sent

the 100,000-plus fans at Azteca Stadium into a frenzy by announcing penalties in Spanish.

Tickets for Dolphins-Giants went on sale in February, and in the first 72 hours more than 500,000 tickets were requested. The refurbished Wembley Stadium, home of the English national soccer team, re-opened in March with a

London's **WEMBLEY STADIUM** will host the Dolphins and Giants on Oct. 28

capacity of 90,000.

Last fall, NFL owners voted to play up to two regular-season games per season outside the U.S. for the next five years. No future international sites have been announced, though there are plans to play a preseason game in Beijing, China, in August 2009.

— CHRIS NEUBAUER



WEMBLEY STADIUM



# COURT E. MANN'S FANTASY STOCK REPORT

is published weekly at:



## FANTASY

# Stock falling

Unfortunately, not every player will see his production increase simply due to a year of professional seasoning under his belt. The ever-changing NFL landscape will make it difficult for these immediate-impact stars to duplicate their rookie feats.

### QB VINCE YOUNG | TITANS

V.Y. left no doubt in a spectacular rookie season that he can make plays with his legs (528 rushing yards, seven TDs in 13 starts), but the jury's still out on his passing ability after only 159 yards passing per game and 11 TD tosses in that span. His potential for improvement will have fantasy owners drooling in the middle rounds and relying on him as their weekly starter, but don't minimize the free-agent loss of the team's top two receivers, Drew Bennett and Bobby Wade. Young's upside is immeasurable, but even he needs someone to throw to.

### RB MAURICE JONES-DREW | JAGUARS

Only five players matched or bettered Jones-Drew's 16 total scores in '06, and the bowling-ball back erupted at the right time with 10 touchdowns in his last eight games. Unfortunately, unlike the Pats and Colts, the Jags elected not to discard their veteran complement, instead re-signing

Fred Taylor. Don't forget that two of Jones-Drew's top four yardage efforts came with Taylor sidelined in Weeks 15 and 16. With Taylor still around and Greg Jones returning to a suddenly crowded backfield, Mo Jo Drew's ceiling isn't as high as Joseph Addai's or Laurence Maroney's, although he remains a quality TD-heavy option.

### RB MIKE BELL | BRONCOS

The undrafted free agent emerged in Broncos training camp to become a factor in the running game and a thorn in the side of Tatum Bell's fantasy owners. Mike Bell finished with eight rushing scores as the designated red-zone runner, as many as Frank Gore scored and more than Brian Westbrook and Willis McGahee. However, despite Tatum's departure, Travis Henry arrives in Denver, and the Broncos believe they have finally found a complete back who can carry the load. Worse yet for Mike Bell is Henry's proficiency at finding the endzone, as he has scored 30 rushing

**MAURICE JONES-DREW** will still have to share his piece of the Jags' rushing pie

TDs in his last three years as a starter.

### TE TONY SCHEFFLER | BRONCOS

Like his training-camp roommate, Jay Cutler, Scheffler stormed on to the fantasy scene late in '06, racking up 204 yards and four touchdowns in the final four games of the season. Although the second-rounder clearly has his talented passer's attention, the Broncos brought in ex-Patriot Daniel Graham to share TE duties. The newcomer may take on more blocking responsibilities than the youngster, but Graham will see his share of passes. In addition, WR Javon Walker is the big-play threat, WR Brandon Marshall is coming on, and both WRs Brandon Stokley and Rod Smith will be sought to move the chains. There's only one football to go around.

— COURT E. MANN



HARRY SCULL JR.

## CHARGERS, TITANS TO CHALLENGE BETTORS

**T**hinking about wagering on the NFL this season? Here are a few burning questions to consider:

**Q. Will the Chargers be as dominant with Norv Turner replacing Marty Schottenheimer as head coach?**

**A.** If that sounds like an odd question to you, consider that San Diego, playoff results included, has winning records against the spread in each of the last three seasons: 13-2-

San Diego a play, you might have to lay quite a few points, especially if the Chargers are at home. Another message of caution to bettors: The Chargers failed to cover the last three times they were double-digit favorites in '06.

That said, teams with first-year coaches can offer betting opportunities for handicappers. In 2006, three teams led by new head coaches — the Jets (Eric Mangini), the Bills (Dick Jauron) and the Saints (Sean Payton) — were some of the league's best bets. The

Jets covered 11-of-16 regular-season games, while the Bills and Saints were 10-6 ATS.

Like San Diego, Atlanta (Bobby Petrino), Arizona (Ken Whisenhunt), Dallas (Wade Phillips), Miami (Cam Cameron), Oakland (Lane Kiffin) and Pittsburgh (Mike Tomlin) hired new coaches in the offseason.

**Q. The Titans: bettors' best friends or a disappointment waiting to happen?**

**A.** From Nov. 19 to Christmas Eve, the Titans won six straight games. But Titans bettors know the real story: Head coach Jeff Fisher's team was the best investment around during that stretch. Here was the deal: You went to the window. You would bet on the

underdog Titans. You would breathe easily, for you had Vince Young on your side. And after every game, Young had added to his lore, and you had made a nice little return on your investment, particularly if you bet them to win on the money line.

Fast-forward to 2007. Young and the Titans aren't being dismissed so easily. Opponents have had the offseason to study Young's weaknesses. To bet Tennessee or to fade Tennessee? It's a tougher question than it was in the heart of holiday shopping season, isn't it?

**Q. Will this be the Year of the Underdog, the Year of the Favorite — or none of the above?**

**A.** Points spread underdogs covered in droves last season, making the 2006 campaign a happy one for professional bettors and casual fans who took the points. It was the other way around in 2005, with favorites covering about 58 percent of the regular-season games. Professional handicappers say the split between underdogs and favorites is usually closer to 50-50. Perhaps 2007 will mark a return to gambling normalcy.

— MIKE WILKENING

Check out Mike Wilkening's "COVERING THE SPREAD" blog for inside handicapping information.



2 in 2004, 9-6-1 in '05 and 9-8 in '06. Diehard Chargers backers and hardened gamblers alike lined their pockets in those final years of "Martyball." Now consider this: Turner-coached teams are 63-78-2 ATS (including playoffs), and only two of his nine squads have covered more than 50 percent of their games. Granted, Turner has never coached a team as talented as the one he inherits in San Diego. But the team's lofty standing could pose another problem for prospective bettors. If you are going to make



# Kickoff 2007

## SNEAK PREVIEW

Looking  
ahead  
to the 2008  
NFL draft



Darren McFadden

**I**t is still very, very early in the evaluation process to look ahead at the 2008 NFL draft, but based on preliminary looks, here are 10 players who popped off tape in 2006 and will receive plenty of scrutiny from NFL scouts in the coming year:

### RB DARREN MCFADDEN | Arkansas [JR.]

A very physically imposing talent, McFadden is a versatile home-run hitter who can take over games. He can run, catch and pass

and is dangerous every time he touches the ball. He made an immediate impact upon his arrival in the program and should do the same in the pro game.

### DT GLENN DORSEY | LSU

A very rangy big man who makes plays sideline to sideline and plays with a lot of energy. After surprisingly deciding to stay in school for his senior season, he could be the highest defensive tackle drafted since Dewayne Robertson was taken fourth overall in '03. May be one of the best to enter the league since Warren Sapp.

### OT JAKE LONG | Michigan

A big, tough, physical tackle who can be effective on the right side or the left, Long could have challenged Joe Thomas to be the

top tackle in the '07 draft had he declared. His nastiness and ability to drive defenders into the dirt stands out on tape, and he is deceptively quick-footed, looking more agile as a junior after shedding weight.

### OT MICHAEL OHER | Mississippi [JR.]

Has tremendous natural athleticism and even more impressively has had to overcome a great deal in his life to get to where he is now. Has all the makings of a prototypical left tackle and shows the ability to dominate.

### DE DERRICK HARVEY | Florida [JR.]

As a sophomore, he outshined teammate Jarvis Moss and played his best on the biggest of stages, creating a lot of pressure in the national championship game. Has a lot of

The following is a list of football terms commonly used by NFL coaches and personnel evaluators that you may not be familiar with.



**Anchor** — the ability to hold one's ground and not be moved.

**Ball skills** — refers to how well a player reacts to the ball when it's in the air; natural instinctiveness for the ball.

**Box safety** — a safety who serves as an eighth man or fourth linebacker near the line of scrimmage in run support.

**Breathes fire** — scouting term for one who plays with intensity and competitiveness.

**Bubble butt** — large buttocks and thigh area; considered a positive.

**Carries his pads well** — doesn't let his pads interfere with his speed, agility, etc.

**Chardonnay-drinker** — a player who

does not play physical.

**China doll** — a player who is prone to injury.

**Cut block** — a block that occurs below the knee.

**Cuts/sifts through trash** — moves well around pileups of players to make plays.

**Dime** — situational pass defense featuring six defensive backs.

**Glass-eater** — a player who exudes toughness.

**Gunner** — furthest outside position on special teams. Typically the first man downfield covering kicks.

**H-back** — a tight end who motions to the backfield and serves as a blocker.

**Hole-digger** — a defensive player who effectively stuffs the run.

**Keeps his feet clean** — keeps blockers away from his feet and keeps his feet from getting tangled up in a mass of bodies.

**Key and diagnose** — to read the keys of a developing play and diagnose what is about to happen.

**Knee-bender** — a player who bends

his knees rather than his waist; usually considered a positive.

**Loose hips** — flexible quality; a positive.

**Nickel** — situational pass defense featuring five defensive backs.

**Pick and slide** — the ability to see blocks and pick holes as a runner.

**Plays well in a phonebooth** — plays well in tight quarters, usually refers to inside the tackle box.

**Plays with his pads too high** — plays too upright, causing him to lose leverage.

**Press coverage** — refers to a defensive back lining up on the line of scrimmage (also known as bump-and-run coverage).

**Pulls a rabbit out of his hat** — possesses the skill to make a big play where none seemed possible.

**Road-grader** — a very wide-bodied, powerful blocker.

**Runs/plays behind pads** — runs/plays with good form; i.e., with a good base, good balance and without overextending.

**Scrape and sift** — the way in which a linebacker will avoid blockers, as opposed



upside and is sure to draw a lot of double-teams this season.

#### RB JONATHAN STEWART | Oregon (JR.)

Strong, powerful, compact and fast, Stewart has flown under the radar, but he has all the tools to break out as a junior and become one of the top backs in the country.

#### DE CALAIS CAMPBELL | Miami (Fla.) (JR.)

Athletic rush end with big-time pass-rush ability, Campbell has legitimate pro traits to wreak havoc off the edge and has a giant frame to continue filling out to make his game complete.

#### WR LIMAS SWEED | Texas

A bigger version of former Longhorns WR Roy Williams, Sweed is a terrific athlete who has continually made big plays with the game on the line, including his famous leaping end-zone grab that was responsible for knocking off Ohio State on the Longhorns' way to an undefeated season when he was a sophomore.

#### DE-OLB TOMMY BLAKE | TCU

May project best to rush linebacker in the pros but has the edge speed to be a force off the corner for a 4-3 front and will find a way to create pressure wherever he aligns.

#### WR-RS DeSEAN JACKSON | California (JR.)

A game-breaking returner and more polished receiver than Ted Ginn Jr., Jackson is the best little receiver in the country. He can accelerate to top speed in an instant and change games with his blazing speed.

—NOLAN NAWROCKI

to taking them on.

**Second level** — down the field.

**Short-area/small-area player** — a player who is effective only when responsible for a very limited part of the field.

**Stack and shed** — to take on a blocker, locate the ball and disengage.

**Stack the point** — to hold the point of attack and not get pushed back.

**Take on and shed** — a defensive player's ability to take on a blocker and defeat him, as opposed to running around him.

**Three-technique** — a defensive tackle who lines up in the gap between the offensive guard and the tackle (also known as under tackle). A zero-technique would line up directly opposite the center, the one-technique in the gap between the center and guard, and so on.

**Top-end speed** — long-distance speed (beyond 20 yards).

**X-receiver/split end** — a receiver who lines up out wide on the line of scrimmage.

**Y-receiver/tight end** — a receiver who lines up in tight on the line of scrimmage.

**Z-receiver/flanker** — a receiver in motion who lines up slightly behind the line of scrimmage.

## NFLIST

# Pressure to perform

PFW's editors were polled on the following question: "Which players are under the most pressure to perform in 2007?" As expected, quarterbacks dominated the discussion ... but one disgruntled defender came up, too.

### 1. Rex Grossman

Grossman's record as a starter: 19-8. His margin for error in Chicago: slim. Grossman's Super Bowl meltdown came after shaky play in the final weeks of the regular season and the NFC title game. Supporters will point out that he's relatively inexperienced and that when he's good, he's *really* good. Grossman posted a QB rating of 100 or better in seven regular-season starts. But scouts and fans alike want to see more consistency from him. One NFC executive noted that Cardinals QB Matt Leinart, who had all of 11 starts as a rookie, had "better control" of his offense and "better smarts" than Grossman.

### 2. Michael Vick

In six NFL seasons, Vick has completed 53.8 percent of his passes. New Falcons head coach Bobby Petrino, who has staked his future to Vick's development, wants his quarterback to complete — get this — 65 percent of his throws. Vick, who turns 27 in June, is charged with learning and mastering his third offense in seven seasons. Some might say some of the pressure is off Vick now that talented backup Matt Schaub has been traded to Houston. But others will argue he has never faced more scrutiny, considering the vote of confidence he has received from Falcons management.

### 3. Ben Roethlisberger

Roethlisberger threw more interceptions in 2006 (23) than he had in his first two seasons combined (20). That wasn't quite what the Steelers were looking for from their franchise quarterback. The Steelers will still likely try to extend his contract in the coming years, but playing fast-and-loose football will not help his bargaining position.

### 4. Donovan McNabb

It seems hard to believe that some Eagles fans seriously debated the merits of 37-year-old Jeff Garcia replacing McNabb as the starter. But when McNabb suffered a serious knee injury on Nov. 19, Garcia led an improbable playoff run. Garcia is gone, but McNabb — who is expected to be ready for Week One — faces

what could be a defining season in his Eagles career.

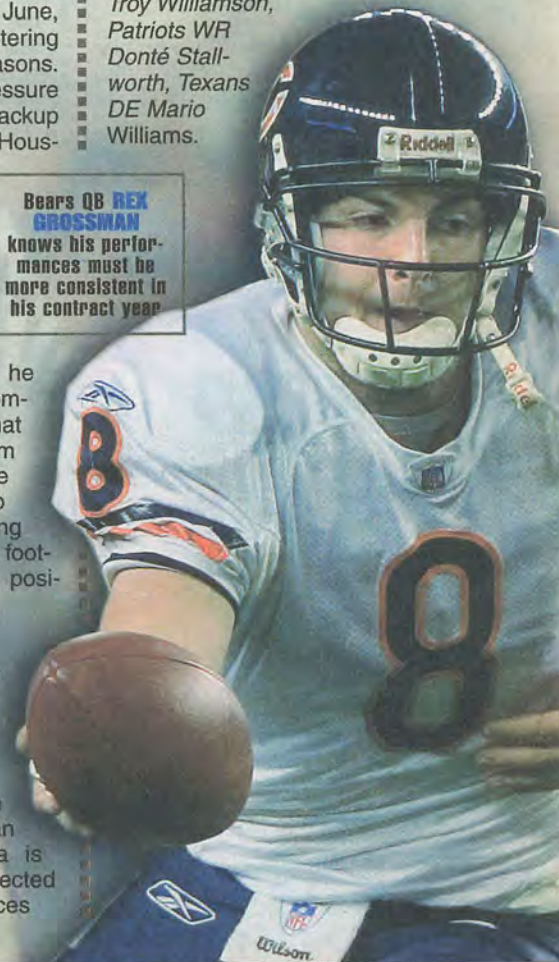
### 5. Lance Briggs

Briggs and the Bears engaged in one of the most contentious contract squabbles in recent memory this off-season. The Bears designated Briggs their "non-exclusive" franchise player. Briggs couldn't have been less happy with the franchise tag and said he had no interest in signing the franchise tender, which would have guaranteed him a salary of \$7.206 million in '07. Briggs took his displeasure public with the help of agent Drew Rosenhaus. Those are the ingredients for polarizing debate — and big-time pressure on Briggs, no matter where he's getting paid in 2007.

### OTHERS RECEIVING VOTES:

Cowboys QB Tony Romo, Cowboys WR Terrell Owens, Jaguars QB Byron Leftwich, Bears RB Cedric Benson, 49ers CB Nate Clements, Vikings WR Troy Williamson, Patriots WR Donté Stallworth, Texans DE Mario Williams.

Bears QB REX GROSSMAN knows his performances must be more consistent in his contract year



VISUAL IMAGE, INC.



# Kickoff 2007

## Q&A with **LaDAINIAN TOMLINSON**

**H**ow generous of him. The Chargers' LaDainian Tomlinson let Shaun Alexander's NFL record for touchdowns in a season last for one whole year before scoring a staggering 31 times in leading San Diego to a 14-2 record in '06. The reigning MVP took time out while filming a commercial in Canada to discuss the business side of football, who the toughest defender is and how his body feels after the season.

**PFW:** What is something the casual sports fan might not realize about life in the NFL?

**L.T.:** I think the perception is we get paid a lot of money and just play football. I think what people don't understand is all the

hours that go into preparing for one game. We probably work more than the average person on a weekly basis. ... I think that's what the average fans don't know.

**PFW:** People just think you show up, put the pads on and play?

**L.T.:** Yeah, exactly. They don't know that we actually get in at 7 a.m. and leave at 4:30. And that's something you wouldn't know, because that's what I thought before I got in the league. I thought it was going to be great. No school, you just go to practice and come home. And it's not like that.

**PFW:** Did the departures of Drew Brees and Marty Schottenheimer the last two years remind you that this is a business first?

**L.T.:** Yeah, you tell yourself all along it's not, but when a (teammate) leaves and a coach you've had most of your career leaves, it hits you and reminds you that it is a business. It's tough because you can't help but question if it's going to happen to you. That's the toughest part about it. And I really think that's why you see some guys with the attitude of "I don't care, I just want to

make as much money as I can with any team that wants me." ... One year you might have a guy next to you in the locker room, and the next year it's a different guy.

**PFW:** Was it fun to see Drew have success in New Orleans, and did you guys get a kick out of competing against each other in the MVP race?

**L.T.:** It really was fun. We work out together at times during the year, and so we both know how hard each other works in the offseason and how much we put into it. So it's gratifying to see the success on the field. And when we'd talk during the year, it was kind of crazy how I was telling him it would be great if we were co-MVPs. And the crazy thing about it, even though it didn't turn out like that, we were co-winners for the Walter Payton Man of the Year. It was a great year for both of us.

**PFW:** When you get a chance to watch him on film or from the sideline, how glad are you that Shawne Merriman's on your side and not a Raider?

**L.T.:** Oh, it's definitely more fun to watch him when he's on your side than being on the opposite team and having to go against him. A guy like that who's got all the skills and the tools that it takes to be a great one, it's great to know he's on my side and I don't have to try to worry about making him miss or running from him. ... He comes strong all the time. And that's the hunger that he has to be great. He wants to be suc-

## New faces in new places

**NFL sticks to trend of hiring first-time head coaches in 2007**

**R**etreads are out. Neophytes are in again. After 7-of-10 head-coaching vacancies were filled by first-timers last year, league owners continued to turn to coaches with no NFL head-coaching experience in 2007, as five of the seven openings went to first-timers Cam Cameron, Lane Kiffin, Bobby Petrino, Mike Tomlin and Ken Whisenhunt. Only Norv Turner and Wade Phillips have previous NFL head-coaching experience — Turner in Washington and Oakland, and Phillips in Denver, Buffalo and as an interim head coach in Atlanta and New Orleans.



New Falcons head coach **BOBBY PETRINO** jumped from the college ranks to become an NFL head coach for the first time



Following Nick Saban's return to the college ranks after posting a disappointing 15-17 record in two seasons in Miami, the Dolphins turned to Cameron to lead this proud franchise back to the postseason. Though this is Cameron's first NFL head-coaching gig, he has established himself as one of the top offensive minds in the game, having directed the potent Chargers offense the past five seasons. Upon setting his coaching staff for his first season in charge, Cameron decided to proceed without naming an offensive coordinator, confident that he can also handle the play-calling and oversee the offense. Cameron's top priority is finding a starting quarterback who can be entrusted to lead the team to the playoffs. He also inherits an aging defense that ranks among the league's best but will need to be rebuilt in the near future.



After admitting a mistake in giving Art Shell a second go-round as head coach and conducting another puzzling search, Raiders owner Al Davis made Lane Kiffin the league's youngest head coach at 32. Kiffin, the son of longtime Buccaneers defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin, comes from the powerful USC program, where he quickly worked his way up the ranks and most recently served as the Trojans' offensive coordinator. While he has former 49ers and Falcons offensive coordinator Greg Knapp to lean on for assistance, Kiffin will be the one calling plays. He knows the promising Raiders defense is in good hands with coordinator Rob Ryan. The offense, though, is another matter. Improving the blocking and getting through to moody but talented WRs Randy Moss and Jerry Porter would be good first steps.



cessful, and he shows it on every play.

**PFW:** I know you usually look at defenses as a whole when you watch film, but is there one guy in particular who has been difficult to go against?

**L.T.:** (Dolphins MLB) Zach Thomas is always real tough. He's so smart, and he sticks his head in everything. You can't fool him, and it's always tough to face him for four quarters.

**PFW:** You grew up idolizing Emmitt Smith in Texas. Is it strange now to know that kids are looking up to you the same way you looked up to Emmitt?

**L.T.:** It is a little strange because it's a dream come true. You never know how it's going to turn out. You always think you're going to be that kid looking up to somebody else, but it's come full circle and it's a great feeling.

**PFW:** Speaking of adoring fans, how often do you have people telling you about their fantasy football teams?

**L.T.:** Man, people come up to me all the time about fantasy football. That's the crazy thing; I get more questions about fantasy football than I do anything else. Easy. ... I can see how it's exciting for fans, though. It's brought people closer to football. Some people maybe didn't even watch that much, but playing fan-



tasy football made them get in touch with the game, like they own the team, so it made it more fun to watch football to see if this guy's going to score touchdowns or this guy's going to make tackles or what have you.

**PFW:** What does your body feel like in January, and what do you do during the season to keep it going?

**L.T.:** At the end of the season, your body just feels tired. It definitely needs the rest. But the things that you do during the season allow you to make it through — all the massages, the cold tubs, the different exercises to keep up. But at the end of the season, rest is definitely needed. There's no way you can just work out or run right after the season because you're so fatigued.

**PFW:** You guys were the best team in the league for the majority of last season but fell short in the playoffs. Is there a mentality that it's really time for this team to get over the hump?

**L.T.:** Yeah, definitely. I think the best teams always have to go through something before they accomplish the ultimate goal. No team has ever just jumped into being a champion. All the teams in the past, they've had to go through something first. I think that's definitely what we're going through now, that challenge of busting through and getting that Super Bowl ring. And I really think it's looking good for us because we're making progress.

MIKE NOWAK / CHARGERS.COM

#### ATLANTA FALCONS

##### BOBBY PETRINO



In three seasons as the Falcons' head coach, Jim Mora posted one losing season — and it cost him his job. Mora was fired after guiding the Falcons to a 7-9 mark last season. Falcons owner Arthur Blank struck first in the coaching search of 2007 by naming Petrino his new head coach less than a week after firing Mora. Petrino spent the past four years as the University of Louisville's head coach and has only three years of NFL experience, serving as Tom Coughlin's assistant in Jacksonville (1999-2001). Petrino is a well-regarded offensive mind and a strict disciplinarian. Petrino's spread offense has been potent at every stop he has made at the college and pro level. Blank is counting on Petrino to maximize QB Michael Vick's talents as he did with another mobile southpaw quarterback, Mark Brunell, in Jacksonville.

#### DALLAS COWBOYS

##### WADE PHILLIPS



If there is a coach who truly feels he is at his dream job, it's Wade Phillips, son of ex-Oilers coach Bum Phillips, who grew up engulfed in Texas football mania. This is Wade Phillips' fifth head-coaching job after a distinguished career as a defensive assistant. He became interim coach, replacing his father for four games, with the Saints at the end of the 1985 season. His first full-time head job was with the Broncos in '93, following Dan Reeves, but he was fired after compiling a 16-16 record in two seasons. In '98, Phillips got his next chance, coaching the Bills to a 29-19 regular-season record, but his 0-2 record in the playoffs and differences with owner Ralph Wilson led to Phillips' ouster. His work with the Chargers' 3-4 "D" the past three years was the deciding factor in Cowboys owner Jerry Jones choosing him to replace Bill Parcells.

#### PITTSBURGH STEELERS

##### MIKE TOMLIN



Like predecessor Bill Cowher, Tomlin was 34 years old and regarded as one of the league's rising assistants when the Steelers tabbed him to become their head coach. Tomlin has only six years of NFL experience, but he was a smashing success as the Buccaneers' DB coach (2001-05) and as the Vikings' defensive coordinator in '06. In Tomlin's only season in Minnesota, the Vikings were tops in the league vs. the run. Tomlin is likely to keep the Steelers' 3-4 defensive scheme in place while emphasizing the coverage technique that earned him raves at both of his NFL stops. Tomlin inherits a veteran team that has only known life under Cowher, but from all indications, he's off to a flying start in his new position. Observers say Tomlin has a vision, and he will not be deterred from carrying out that vision.

#### SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

##### NORV TURNER



Few coaches get to step into a situation as pleasant as this one, but with a full cupboard of talent comes pressure. The pressure to win a Super Bowl. And soon. Despite a 14-2 record, Marty Schottenheimer was deemed expendable after his two coordinators, Cam Cameron and Wade Phillips, departed for head-coaching jobs elsewhere, leaving Turner, the former 49ers offensive coordinator, with a golden opportunity to make amends for a 58-82-1 mark in previous stops in Washington and Oakland. He kept several members of what was left of the previous staff on board, and GM A.J. Smith snagged the well-regarded Ted Cottrell, with whom he worked in Buffalo, to serve as defensive coordinator. Turner, one of the NFL's better offensive minds, is well-known for his play-calling and tutelage of young quarterbacks.

#### ARIZONA CARDINALS

##### KEN WHISENHUNT



The 45-year-old Whisenhunt has provided a welcome breath of fresh air in the desert since replacing Dennis Green, whose impatience, stubbornness and rash decisions were greatly responsible for a disappointing 16-32 record in his three-year reign as head coach. Unlike Green, who wasted no time boldly predicting a winning season in the press conference to announce his hiring, Whisenhunt made no such prediction at his initial press conference, going out of his way to downplay the likelihood of the same kind of instant success that Sean Payton, who has a similar offensive pedigree, enjoyed in his first year as a head coach in New Orleans in 2006. Whisenhunt only promised to work very hard and earn every penny of a four-year contract averaging \$2.5 million per year, with a team option for a fifth season.



# W

hen analyzing potentially the best rookie crop of passers the league has seen since the famed class of 1983, which included John Elway, Dan Marino, Jim Kelly and Ken O'Brien, one would be well advised to get ahold of one Norm Chow.

Not only did Chow coach Vince Young in his first year with the

Titans, but he guided USC's offense with Matt Leinart under center for three years and watched more than a few hours' worth of tape on Jay Cutler before last April's draft. He and Cutler also both called the city of Nashville home last year.

Not surprisingly, Chow believes all three are a cut above.

"I really do," Chow says. "We studied them extensively, and I thought you couldn't go wrong with any of them."

"I knew how bright Matt was, and that's certainly shown up because he's very confident in what he's doing. You saw the same thing in Vince and the confidence that he had in his athletic skills. He's a winner. ... What I didn't know about

Vince is he has this great ability to lift the other players around him. Cutler is confident and tough. He isn't going to let anybody get the best of him."

"I thought all three guys, besides having the physical skills, had some intangibles that were really, really unique."

And that's just it. The intangibles. That "it" factor NFL folks can't entirely describe or even put into coherent words, but you just know that quarterbacks either have it or they don't. The consensus prior to the draft was that all three had it, and now with their rookie seasons in the books, that's even more abundantly clear.

Athleticism, a wealth of confidence, a competitive fire and the "it" factor. "That's what it takes to be a quarterback because you certainly have to put up with a lot of junk," Chow says. "You get way too much credit and way too much blame."

The trio will be forever linked because of the position they play and how high they were drafted, and they're just fine with that. Bring on Year Two.



## The 'Vince vibe' is alive and well

Fresh off a dramatic national championship victory over USC, a game he dominated like a teenager playing his 50-year-old father in a video game, it was difficult to miss what has been referred to as the "Vince vibe."

Vince Young was meandering through radio row at the Super Bowl in Detroit in February of last year. Trailing a few steps behind was a gaggle of friends and

Everyone wanted to be close. Media members from print, TV and radio even found themselves following, observing and, perhaps unknowingly, admiring. It was easy to get caught up in the Vince vibe. Effortless, almost.

Young says leadership, in its most basic form, has always come easy for him. It stems back to his senior year of high school, when he and a few of his friends had grown tired of

unscientific blend of confidence, leadership, energy, humor and charisma that makes up the Vince vibe. He always looks like he's having a good time, and he's in control. People gravitate in his direction as a result.

"There is something to that, and I don't

# GENERATION

As the NFL's three first-round quarterbacks in 2006, VINCE YOUNG, MATT LEINART and JAY CUTLER may have taken different paths to stardom,

family. Young, with an assistant directing him where to go, made stops at a handful of radio tables for interviews before chatting it up with Pro Bowlers like the Ravens' Ray Lewis and the Bengals' Chad Johnson. Without the proper credentials to enter radio row, fans and general passersby circled the room from above, leaning over railings and peering through openings in the crowd, yelling his name as if he were a popular Hollywood starlet or the latest "it" actor on the red carpet. Lewis, Johnson, 49ers QB Alex Smith, Hall of Famer Steve Young and various ESPN and sports personalities all were in close proximity, all right there and surely much easier to get the attention of, yet it was Vince whom they called out to, looking for a scribble of a signature or a smile and a wave.

It was all about Vince. Everyone stopped what they were doing when he was nearby.

losing in the second round of the state playoffs. They felt working harder, and doing so together, was the only solution. So they spoke to the rest of their teammates, challenging them as a group to make a summertime commitment to lifting weights, getting to practice on time and toiling for endless hours in the Texas heat. The result: The Madison Marlin advanced to the Class 5A Division II semifinals, where Young would account for nearly 500 yards of offense and score six touchdowns in the loss.

"Ever since I saw how it motivated guys to play and get in shape, it's been working ever since," Young says. "I like to get everybody motivated and pumped up, and I really feel like I've been trying to get everybody into that vibe and have a good time playing the game, win or lose. As long as you gave it all you got, that's all that matters to me."

An undeniable presence oozes from his athletic 6-5, 233-pound frame. It's an

think it's something that you can ever define," says Ron Jaworski, ESPN analyst and former Eagles quarterback, who will join the "Monday Night Football" booth this fall.

Jaworski, an avid viewer of film and a master of X's and O's, says that while preparing for his role on ESPN's 2006 draft coverage, he watched every one of Young's passes at Texas. And similar to a lot of scouts, he liked Young an awful lot, but he didn't love him. He thought Young should have stayed for his senior season with the Longhorns to continue the incremental growth Jaworski had seen. Although Jaworski had some misgivings about Young the passer, with his unorthodox delivery and other mechanical flaws, he was taken by Young the person during the Maxwell Award weekend in Atlantic City, N.J.

"He's engaging, he's friendly, he's very confident and he's very comfortable in his own skin, so he's clearly got an edge in that area," Jaworski says. "And I think that personality has served him well."

Let's get beyond the personality for a moment. There is, after all, his freakish





By **TRENT MODGLIN** ASSOCIATE EDITOR

athleticism to discuss. Michael Vick has Young's speed and running ability but lacks the impressive size. Donovan McNabb and Daunte Culpepper have comparable size, but neither one glides away from trouble the way Young does. And, it could be argued, none of the above is known for his clutch play the way Young is.

Still, Young battled naysayers coming out of Texas. They nitpicked and criticized. His delivery wasn't pretty. It was low, awkward almost. Mechanics, not great. Wonderlic test score, even worse. They seemed to overlook that he won games. Dominated games. Lots of them. And that is what bothers Chow. The scouts who think they have all the answers, when all they really

have is too much time on their hands.

"I used to see that all the time in college, when these scouts used to come around and ask a million questions," Chow says. "And not one of them would ask me whether the kid could play or not."

• • •

While redshirting as a freshman, Young seriously considered leaving football behind and joining the Texas basketball team. He had scored better than 20 points a

game on the hardwood as a two-time All-District performer in high school and wasn't particularly fond of the view from the sideline. But everyone told him his time was coming. Be patient, they advised. Soon, as he began to get some playing time as a redshirt freshman, he quickly realized the dream of playing in the NFL was within his grasp. He went 6-1 as the Longhorns' starter that year, rushed for nearly 1,000 yards and never looked back.

Young put a cap on a junior year for the ages that included 4,086 all-purpose yards and 38 total touchdowns by outdueling the defending champs from USC with a national-title game performance that would end up seriously boosting his draft stock. With Young's immense skills on full dis-



play, the Trojans looked like they were playing with their shoes tied together. He completed 30-of-40 passes for 267 yards and rushed for 200 yards and three touchdowns on 19 carries (10.5-yard average). Two of his rushing scores came in the final 4:03, including the game-winning eight-yard scamper on fourth down with 19 seconds left in regulation.

Young chuckles when asked about that epic Rose Bowl. He mentions he had "a glimpse of it again the other day." Every time he watches it, he sees something different, something he didn't notice before, and the sound of his voice and the words he chooses lead you to believe he misses the college game and his time in Austin.

One is left to wonder if, at some point, it might be best for him to begin to separate himself from that game. It meant so much to him, sure. And it really established him as a clutch performer. But it's not the best idea to live in the past. Not in the NFL, and certainly not when you're the building block of a Titans franchise for whom defenses will be constantly altering their schemes. Young, with a laugh, suggests it's not that easy, because everywhere he goes, it's all anyone wants to talk about.

"That's what keeps me focused now and walking in a straight path, because I know that everybody in the world saw that game. So, when they come in contact with me in person, I want to be that humble guy," he says. "I want to be that guy that they respect. I want to be that guy that, after they meet me on a plane or whatever, they can go off and say 'Hey, Vince is a cool guy and very respectful.' I want to keep living the life as a role model and a humble guy."

The role model and humble guy made believers out of everyone in Nashville in '06. He earned Offensive Rookie of the Year honors after keeping a surprising Titans team in playoff contention with one dynamic play after another, making rallies from double-digit deficits look commonplace and going 8-5 as the starter with seven rushing touchdowns.

On the field, he believes his biggest challenge is outwitting rival defensive coordinators. If he can learn to anticipate certain scenarios before they happen, based on studying tendencies, he figures

he'll be able to put the Titans in a better position without overthinking at the line of scrimmage. He also knows his sometimes erratic passing needs to show more consistency.

Off the field, Young experienced a whirlwind of an offseason that saw him have to buy drinks on the beach for veterans at the Pro Bowl; rub elbows with Leinart, John Elway, Emmitt Smith and Jim Kelly, among others, at a charity event hosted by Muhammad Ali in Phoenix; take care of an increasing number of endorsement deals; and serve as a judge at the Miss USA pageant, which, not surprisingly, wasn't a hard sell for Donald Trump. But on this day, nursing a cold after working out at the Titans' facility, Young just wanted some time on the couch.

"I always have to set time for myself," Young says. "Some guys may be looking for me, but I don't answer my phone. I'm off duty right now."

That all will change soon enough, as he gets back to work in training camp as the young Titans try to build on what they started under his guidance last season, winning six of their last seven games.

And though it's way too early to begin looking past a budding football career, Vince's vibe is clearly the stuff politicians dream of.

"Maybe someday," he says, laughing at the thought. "When I get older, I think I'm going to try to do something like that."



## Leinart far removed from L.A., and that suits him just fine

Tempe, Ariz., is 384 miles away from Los Angeles. It only seems farther than that for Matt Leinart.

And in a good way.

In his previous life, Leinart served as the poster boy for all things USC. The handsome, popular quarterback of the best team in the land, he was a magnet for the paparazzi with his penchant for the Hollywood nightlife and the many celebrities he called pals. He was L.A., it seemed, and it fit him well.

But things are different now. He is entering his second year in the NFL as the starting quarterback of the Arizona Cardinals, miles away —

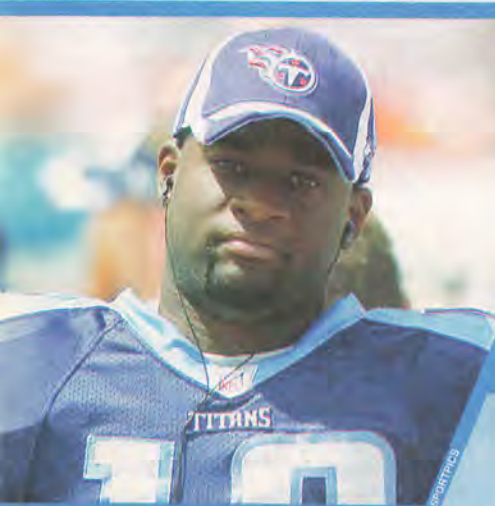
384, to be exact — from the glitz and glamour of the Hollywood flashbulbs and clubs. He is in the desert, having been chosen with the 10th pick in the 2006 draft to help resurrect a team with a history of losing unlike any other in the NFL.

Arizona is his new home. It's where he lives, where he trains, where he hangs with his new teammates. The lure of Los Angeles is a strong one, but Leinart has broken away to focus on the new stage of his life. The only reason he goes to L.A. anymore is to see his infant son, Cole, who lives with his mother, Brynn Cameron, a guard on the USC women's basketball team whom Leinart dated for several years. His voice changes when he describes fatherhood, and he admits to driving like an 80-year-old when his son's in the car.

"You care less about the little things because you have something that's more important than you in your life," says Leinart. "It's just a feeling that you get when you're a father or a mother. You can't describe it until you are one. It's the best. It's just different, from driving slower in a car to changing diapers and just the feeling you get, looking at your kid. It's been the best thing that's happened to me."

Few people said the same thing when he was drafted by the Cardinals. Admittedly spoiled by the wealth of talent around him at USC, where he was a three-time All-American and went 37-2 as a starter en route to a Heisman Trophy and a pair of national titles, Leinart says he was undeterred by having to work from the bottom up in the pros. He thinks, in fact, he lucked out, given the Cardinals' young talent, the new coaching staff with former Steelers offensive coordinator Ken Whisenhunt taking over this season, the buzz created with a sold-out, sparkling new stadium and the faces — like Leinart, RB Edgerrin James and WRs Anquan Boldin and Larry Fitzgerald — that a community can latch onto. You have to create a nucleus first, and Leinart believes they have. The key now is getting over that hump.

"It's all about developing a confidence and getting rid of that whole losing mentality," he says. "We all want to win, but you just get used to losing, so you deal with it and move on. But we've got to change that, to where we expect to win every time we step on the football field. And that's the attitude you have to have as a team. That's the big step for us. Get off on the right foot, get some momentum and some confidence, and you could see



**He's engaging, he's friendly, he's very confident and he's very comfortable in his own skin, so he's clearly got an edge in that area. And I think that personality has served him well.**

— ESPN ANALYST RON JAWORSKI ON VINCE YOUNG





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**In my first two (NFL) starts, I was in the two-minute drill to try to win the game, and I hadn't been in the two-minute drill my whole career in college except the Notre Dame game as a junior.**

— CARDINALS QB MATT LEINART

this organization turn it around in one year.”

Early in '05, Leinart surprised the sports world when he turned down the riches of the NFL after a junior year in which he took home the Heisman Trophy and led the Trojans to a national title. When he announced his decision at a press conference on the USC campus, the crowd roared its approval. Analysts who had him tabbed to go early in the first round, meanwhile, were shell-shocked.

Thing is, Leinart still liked being a kid. He liked the backpack slung over his shoulder, the sandals on his feet as he walked across a sunny campus, the traditions, the band blaring after a crucial first down. There was nothing like it, not in his mind. The NFL wasn't going anywhere, and the passion for Saturday afternoons was still strong, like a fire in his belly, so why succumb to the pressure of taking that next step before he was truly prepared?

“I just wasn't ready to leave it,” he says. “And as far as football, I didn't feel ready to go. I needed one more year to develop, and that was what I believed. I didn't care what anybody else was saying. Nobody really knows if you're going to go No. 1, 10 or 20 in the draft. You never know. And I didn't feel confident. And even though I went No. 10 last year, I felt confident that wherever I was going to go, I was ready to play.”

He sighs the sigh of a man who still misses the life. College was good to him. Awfully good. But then came a learning curve behind an offensive line that, to put it politely, wouldn't be ranked anywhere near the top half of the league. He replaced Kurt Warner in Week Five and went on to finish with 2,547 passing yards, 11 touchdowns and 12 interceptions. After losing his first five starts, Leinart closed out his rookie campaign with three victories in his final four games.

Jaworski, like a lot of scouts, thought Leinart made significant strides in his first year. He saw some skittish feet early on, when Leinart was rushing things behind some porous blocking. But as the line started to jell down the stretch, a comfort level became apparent.

Jaworski felt Leinart might struggle a bit in the NFL because of the great success he had at the college level. Reason being, Leinart didn't really know adversity. With the Trojans, blitzes were regularly picked up, his receivers beat defenders off the line and could extend or accelerate to catch the

occasional errant pass, and the defense rarely put him in a bad spot.

“I went through a game-and-a-half of film his senior year, and he never got hit,” Jaworski says. “I remember getting some e-mails after the draft last year where some people thought I questioned his toughness. And that wasn't the case at all. I questioned that he just didn't get hit. I didn't know how tough he was because I'd plug in two days' worth of film on (Jay) Cutler and see him getting the crap beat out of him. But when I'd watch Matt Leinart, man, he wasn't getting hit. So, in projecting him to the NFL, yeah, I could see he had the throws and all those things, but all of a sudden in the NFL, you've got all the bodies flying around and the different blitz schemes and all that. And I thought he handled all those little nuances of the NFL game very well in a short period of time last year.”

One of the few knocks on Leinart was that he wasn't overly athletic or mobile, a criticism Chow balks at.

“When does a guy ever run a 40-yard dash?” Chow questions. “You watch all the good ones in the pocket; they have a feel for it mechanically and they can step up, step over and all that kind of stuff to still make a play. And the guy's extremely athletic. I know the years I was (at USC), he was the best basketball player on the team. ... You get him on the court, and he's like a guy that could play in the NBA. He runs, he jumps, he shoots. He's just real smooth, like he is at quarterback.”

Like many rookies, especially passers, reaching a level of consistency was the hardest part of his introduction to the NFL. That and dealing with so many games coming down to the final minutes, which was not an easy task for a guy who spent most fourth quarters in college sipping Gatorade and wearing a baseball cap instead of a helmet.

“It doesn't matter if you're the Colts or the worst team in the league, on any Sunday, you can play with anybody,” Leinart says. “That's what makes it fun, but it's hard too. In my first two starts, I was in the two-minute drill to try to win the game, and I hadn't been in the two-minute drill my whole career in college except the Notre Dame game as a junior.”

Leinart cherishes what he calls the “genuine relationship” he has with Warner on and off the field. It's not like those where you have people faking their way through it. Warner has helped him through a lot, and

when Leinart was given the reins last fall, Warner was the first to say, “Anything you need, let me know.”

Leinart also likes that he has surrounded himself with good people. People that he trusts. His family. His friends. All work together to help keep him humble.

“Obviously, life changes and experiences and things change you, but I don't think I've ever changed as a person,” he says. “And that all stems from having good people around me and being brought up the right way. That's something that's very important, to not get caught up in the hype and all that stuff, because as a football player, that can be taken away from you in one day.”

Such is life amidst the dangers of the NFL. But it certainly helps that young Cole has his father driving slower these days.

## Elway's shadow not too big for the tough-minded Cutler

Shadows, in their various forms, can loom large. Jay Cutler knows about shadows. The intangible kind, anyway.

When Cutler first arrived in Denver following the draft and the Broncos were whisking him from the airport to their facility for a meet-and-greet press conference, every car dealership he passed on the highway seemed to belong to John Elway. Then, questions at the press conference about Elway. And the expectations from the fans, who saw a resemblance to ol' No. 7 in the strong-armed, shaggy-haired first-round pick and dreamed of a return to greatness.

Everywhere he goes, he feels Elway's shadow. It's not far away, in some shape or form. But he suggests it doesn't bother him, and you really want to believe him.

“He was here for a very long time and ended his career on top, so until someone comes in and establishes himself and wins a Super Bowl, it's going to be John Elway's town,” Cutler says. “It's nothing that really affects me.”

This past March, Cutler was a guest on an exotic trip, courtesy of the Broncos' offensive linemen, an occasionally eccentric bunch that fines each other throughout





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the year for various things, often completely random infractions of the vaguest of rules. At the end of the year, they use the pot and take the team's quarterbacks on a vacation, this time deep-sea fishing in Costa Rica.

Over a few beers and battles with fish, Cutler learned a lot about the quirky fellas who protect him.

"Those are great guys," Cutler says. "Once you get them out in their comfort zone and away from the media, they're funny. I could sit and listen to them talk to each other all day. At work, they stick to themselves and don't say much, but out there, it's different."

Cutler hopes the chemistry he built with his linemen on the waters off Costa Rica will translate over to this summer in train-

five interceptions as the Broncos were nudged out of the playoffs after blowing a late lead in a Week 17 overtime loss to the 49ers.

For Cutler, it wasn't the speed of the pro game that was the toughest adjustment coming out of Vanderbilt. He had seen plenty of quick athletes in the competitive Southeastern Conference. Things moved faster in the NFL, for sure, but nothing that really blew his mind. Instead, it was the patience factor. Managing the game. Taking a three- or four-yard completion that moves the chains and keeps a drive alive or even throwing the ball away instead of constantly looking for the big play or forcing the issue. That's going to come with experience, he's certain of it, but there is that other side to him that wants desperately to sling it downfield and ignite an offense, for people to gather in his corner and season-ticket holders and media members to sit on the edge of

modores winning only five games. With a surrounding cast that paled in comparison to what the country's other elite passers had, it was Cutler's arm strength, intelligence and mental toughness that garnered attention.

Former Rams head coach and current Lions offensive coordinator Mike Martz was enamored with Cutler in '06 and said at the Combine this past February that he "can be in the Manning stratosphere."

Jaworski confidently projected Cutler to be the best of the QB lot coming out last year, and the main reason was his ability to throw under duress.

"He always had people around his body, around his legs, and had to throw from different platforms because the pass rush always seemed to be in his face," Jaworski says of Cutler's college days. "He threw into tight windows, and his receiving corps was mediocre at best. He's a guy who elevated his team."

Scouts took notice how Shanahan and the Broncos suddenly began attacking the entire field once Cutler moved into the lineup, not only sideline to sideline horizontally, but vertically with the deep pass-



**Everyone was scratching their heads with that decision to bench Plummer last year, but I can tell you it made us nervous. Plummer didn't worry us. Cutler, though, he really did.**

—AFC SCOUT, ON THE POTENTIAL OF BRONCOS QB JAY CUTLER

their seats in anticipation. It's just one of the many constant struggles.

"I think check-downs as a young quarterback are one of the toughest things to do," Cutler says. "In college, usually the No. 1 or No. 2 options are open, and those are usually going to be some bigger plays. But in the NFL, a lot of times, No. 1, 2 and 3 are covered, and you have to do what you have to do."

• • •

Growing up, the town Cutler called home was Santa Claus, barely a speck on the map in southern Indiana. Gifts in the form of scholarship offers were hard to come by, despite a state title and All-State honors as a senior. He committed to Illinois, only to see the school rescind its offer when it signed another, more touted quarterback. By then, most schools had nailed down their chosen passers, so when Vanderbilt finally came calling, Cutler jumped at the opportunity.

After redshirting his first year, Cutler started every contest for the Commodores over the next four seasons. Vanderbilt was woefully overmatched during Cutler's time on campus, going 11-35 during his career. Never having qualified for a bowl game, Cutler saved his heroics for a visit to Knoxville in the final game of his senior season, throwing the game-winning TD pass to knock off Tennessee for the first time since 1982.

Cutler was named the SEC Offensive Player of the Year in '05 despite the Com-

ing game and with bootlegs and rollouts. They did things that, quite simply, they couldn't do with the weaker-armed Plummer. It was like building a sizable addition on to a cramped two-bedroom house.

"He's going to be a good one," said one AFC scout, citing, though, that Cutler's decision-making will have to improve over time. "The arm strength and the accuracy and the touch — that's the strengths for him. And his size. He's the real deal, and was only helped by being thrown in there last year."

"Everyone was scratching their heads with that decision to bench Plummer last year, but I can tell you it made us nervous. Plummer didn't worry us. Cutler, though, he really did."

Cutler has been busy this offseason setting up his own charitable foundation, which will partner with United Way to help at-risk kids with furthering their education and staying off the streets. Holding the most prominent position in the state of Colorado as the starting quarterback of the Broncos, he knows it's important to start giving his time and money to help raise concern about an issue near to his heart.

"Working with kids takes a lot of the stuff out of the equation," he says. "They're so pure and innocent, and they just like having you around. Any professional athlete can go into a school, and you're going to light up a kid's day."

And it's doubtful they'll care if he throws more interceptions than Elway.

"Exactly," he says.

ing camp, where he enters the '07 season as the clear-cut captain of the ship.

In a controversial move that was a hot topic among the talking heads on TV, columnists and fan message boards like OrangeMane.com, head coach Mike Shanahan replaced Jake Plummer with Cutler in Week 13 of last year. The move itself was not the controversial part. It was the fact the Broncos were 7-4 and in the middle of a playoff race that stirred the pot.

When the announcement was made that Monday morning, it was exciting for Cutler, obviously, but nerve-racking at the same time. He had been waking up pretty early to study with Plummer before that, but it's quite different when you're the one who actually has to go out there and do it. He estimates he studied more in those six days than he had all year.

Plummer, who announced his retirement this offseason after being traded to Tampa Bay, was a professional every step of the way, from the time Cutler was drafted through the time the rookie took his job. Any question or problem Cutler had, Plummer's ear was always receptive, the advice always forthcoming.

Cutler, who hadn't played a down all season until that first start, went 2-3 at the helm, completing 59.1 percent of his passes for 1,001 yards, nine touchdowns and



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**S**uper Bowl teams make for the most emulated in this copycat NFL world. So when both Super Bowl XLI teams, the Colts and Bears, as well as the teams they beat to get there, the Patriots and Saints, used two-back systems, the rest of the league took notice.

The truth of the matter is that some teams, like the Broncos, have been using this approach for years. Hype is a big factor when these "trends" are discussed; similar hoopla has spilled over for other fads such as the 3-4 defense and cover-2 scheme. A generation ago we couldn't stop talking about the run-and-shoot. Where, pray tell, has that gone?

Coaches, like the Rams' Scott Linehan, don't care about trends — they just want to do what's best for their clubs.

"I don't think a guy can go through a game, consistently week in and week out, in a long NFL season and carry the ball 30 times a game," said Linehan, who wants to lighten the load of workhorse RB Steven Jackson, drafting Brian Leonard in Round Two. "There's going to be some games where someone else is going to have to take some of those carries off a guy so he can make it through a season."

"Very rarely does your back get through a year 100 percent healthy. You're going to need to lean on somebody

else when a guy does get nicked up."

The idea of splitting carries among multiple backs makes sense for several reasons. It helps keep talented backs fresh. It plays to the strengths of each runner and presents different looks to defenses. Likewise, in a system like the Bears or Saints used in '06, where carries weren't necessarily divided proportionally each game, if one runner has the "hot hand," the coaches can ride him more than another.

"I prefer to give the ball to players who give you the best chance to win," Saints head coach Sean Payton said. "We have two talented players (Reggie Bush and Deuce McAllister) there. You can't have enough talented players at that position."

Consider:

■ Seven teams had two players with more than 150 rushes each in 2006, and all had records of .500 or better.

■ Five of the six teams that had a 1,000-yard runner and a 600-yard runner had a .500 record or better.

■ Four of the six clubs that featured a 225-carry and a 150-carry back made the postseason, and the two that missed the playoffs (Denver and Jacksonville) had a combined 17-15 record.

■ In 2003, there were four 350-carry backs in the league; last season, there

was one — Chiefs RB Larry Johnson, who set an NFL mark with 416 carries.

"You have two backs (so) they can split time and save each other's legs and bodies throughout the season," Bush said. "If I get 11 carries, catch six passes and get three returns (in a game), I am happy with that."

The trend is more cyclical than anything. The split system was

**Double duty.** The Saints have a good system to get Reggie Bush (left) and Deuce McAllister adequate touches

# BACK





a common staple in the late 1980s before many teams went to a single workhorse back through parts of the '90s. In fact, you have to question whether this so-called trend is what it is.

The Patriots let go of Corey Dillon, who shared carries with rookie Laurence Maroney. The Colts watched Dominic Rhodes join the Raiders. And the Bears traded

Thomas Jones to the Jets, with Cedric Benson already in Chicago. The common theme with the three teams is that the backs they retained are recent first-round picks.

Jones now finds himself in another multi-RB operation in New York, where he expects to start but also will share carries with Leon Washington, a player deemed too small to play full time and too talented to leave on the bench, and Cedric Houston. Jones kept a relatively good face last season as the Bears started giving Benson more chances and remained diplomatic throughout Super Bowl week as questions came in about how he liked such a system.

"Well, it was something that (was) good for our team. It kept me fresh and gave us a nice one-two punch," Jones said. "It's definitely an asset. The more good players you have on your team, the better off your team is going to be."

Understandably, Jones has shown some resistance to giving up opportunities, reminding media members throughout last season that he was the starter, not Benson. But it appears that some star backs are willing to give up a few touches per game if it means they can extend their careers. Count Jackson (436 touches in '06) among them.

"(Jackson) knows that those (number of

touches and workload) will start wearing on him if he keeps up that pace," Linehan said. "He knows there's going to have to be times where he's going to have someone lighten his load a little bit."

"I think that shows a lot of maturity on his part to look and say, 'We can utilize another player.' I think he also watches a lot of these teams that were very successful this year — a lot of them had one-two punches in the backfield."

Herm Edwards, who has ridden his runners in the past — like Curtis Martin, who totaled 371 carries in '04, and Johnson last season — sounds like a man with a new perspective. "I hope not (to do that again). A lot of that had to do with (No. 2 RB Michael Bennett) being injured some. You don't want to give a guy the ball that many times, but he's going to have to carry it at least 20 (times) or more (per game)."

New Giants RB Reuben Droughns is half of perhaps one of the more intriguing combinations, along with massive Brandon Jacobs. The team wants to utilize a power-run game, and both Droughns and Jacobs do their best work in between the tackles. In that sense, they are more similar to Jones and Benson in Chicago than to Joseph Addai and Rhodes, whose styles were more complementary, in Indy last season.

Droughns, who posted back-to-back 1,200-yard seasons in '04 and '05 but slumped to 758 yards in '06, seems more than fine with the arrangement.

"(The Giants' coaches) definitely said

More teams are  
considering using  
**MULTI-RB SYSTEMS,**

**IN STYLE**

especially following the  
success of the Bears and Colts

By **ERIC EDHOLM** ASSOCIATE EDITOR

LES BENTLEY (BUSH) / JEFF BARCA (MCALLISTER)







PHOTOS BY HARRY SCULL, JR.

it's going to be a one-two punch," he said. "Brandon and (I) will be kind of a pound-it-out style, so we'll try to wear down defenses and work together.

"I'm willing to do whatever. I can catch the ball out of the backfield, so whatever they want, I'm willing to do it. It will all be figured out in training camp."

Of course, running a two-back system doesn't guarantee that a team is going to be a premier running club. A statistical oddity with the final four teams from last year's playoffs is that none of them ranked in the top 10 in rushing yards. In the Colts' and Patriots' cases, they will be passing teams as long as Peyton Manning and Tom Brady are taking the snaps. So using multiple running backs requires the backs to be versatile — and patient.

"You have to respect Reggie (Wayne) and Marvin (Harrison)," Addai said. "Having them on the outside opens it up for us. A lot of people probably aren't as worried about (the Colts' runners), (but)

more about stopping Reggie and Marvin, so that opens it up.

"You would love to have the ball all the time, but at the same time ... you have to take advantage of the opportunities where we get them."

Offensive coordinators tend to say that there is no static formula to stick to, that each game has its own tempo, tenor and flow. That affects play-calling, of course, as well as who gets the reps in the backfield. Most teams allocate the substitution patterns to the RB coach, but the coordinator and head coach might want a certain guy in for specific circumstances.

"You try to get a feel for the game and how it's going," said Eagles offensive coordinator Marty Mornhinweg, who took over play-calling for head coach Andy Reid in '06 and started using the team's two backs, Brian Westbrook and Correll Buckhalter, very effectively together — even in the same backfield, at times.

"When Correll finally got 100 percent

**Sharing:** Fred Taylor (left) and Maurice Jones-Drew combined for 297 of the Jags' 375 rushing yards vs. Indy in Week 14

healthy around midseason, we had another option. We used those two guys together and we had one spell the other. It worked well."

Mornhinweg said. "With Brian, he's so versatile, whereas Correll is more of a one-back or an I-back. But having two guys, especially one as elite and versatile as Brian, it puts a little heat on the defense to make them change their approach depending on what we do back there."

Colts offensive coordinator Tom Moore likes to say that his philosophy is to "get your best 11 players on the field" and that dictates what kind of substitution patterns you have during the season. Example: Edgerrin James, clearly the Colts' best back for years, averaged 347 carries in '04 and '05, before leaving as a free agent before the '06 season.

And in the most extreme example of apportionment, the Colts — with Addai (226 carries) and Rhodes (187) — were the only team to have two backs with at



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least 185 carries.

"You get your offense designed (to) take advantage of the players' abilities," Moore said. "That's the most important thing."

His Super Bowl XLI counterpart, Bears coordinator Ron Turner, has equally as simple a notion offensively as Moore — "We tell our players all the time, 'Do what we do and do it better'" — and a similar situation to the Colts with only one half (Benson) of a successful combo remaining.

"It's nice to have (two options), but you can do fine without it, too," Turner said. "The key is to watch the health of your primary guy if you go that route. How good is he after he's carried it 15, 20, 25 times? Can he keep going? There are more variables the more guys you use, but there are not a lot of guys who can handle that load, either."

Among the teams that used a multi-back approach and will stick with it going forward are the Jaguars, Cowboys, Falcons, Raiders and Panthers.

Of those teams, the Cowboys provided perhaps the clearest blueprint for consistent distribution. Julius Jones, who rushed 267 times for 1,084 yards, was the primary first- and second-down guy. He started games but often gave way to Marion Barber, whose roles included third downs, red zone and the two-minute offense. Barber also spelled Jones on the occasional series and was one of the best reserve backs in football. He ran for 654 yards and scored a total of 16 touchdowns (14 rushing).

The Jaguars also had an interesting situation last season. Fred Taylor was the No. 1 guy, but as the year went on, it was clear that 5-foot-7 Maurice Jones-Drew was deserving of a bigger role. He perhaps did more for the "small back" than anyone in recent years, scoring 16 times as a runner, receiver and special-teamer. He received 15.3 touches per game and still appeared fresh in December, when he gained 6.4 yards per rush.

"I think there's always been opportunity for the undersized back to be a third-down specialist," Jaguars head coach Jack Del Rio said. "I think what you've found is more defenses now have looked to take advantage of those guys by blitzing them and making them block in protection, and getting a mismatch there."

"I think what allowed Maurice to be such a productive player for us is, from early on in camp, he showed the willingness to stick his face in there and block. ... And if you have a guy that's a special, explosive weapon, either with the ball in his hands or as a pass receiver, whether he's carrying or catching it, and he can block, then you can use him at any time."

The Bengals might have been the antithesis of a two-back system in '06, with Rudi Johnson carrying the ball 341 times. The rest of the backs, led by Kenny Watson (25) and Jeremi Johnson (15), had a combined 52 carries. That will change in '07, as Marvin Lewis plans to lighten Rudi Johnson's load with a healthy Chris Perry and '07 second-rounder Kenny Irons picking up the slack.

The Eagles love Westbrook as their



PHOTOS BY ROB HOLT / SPORTSPICS

**Top duo:** LaDainian Tomlinson (left) ruled in '06, but Michael Turner was part of the best RB combo

## Backfields in motion

Here's a look at the top rushing combos from last season that included two 500-yard rushers. Notice how many of those clubs have undergone changes at the position heading into the 2007 season.

'06 RK	TEAM	'06 TOP RUSHER (YARDS)	'06 SECOND RUSHER (YARDS)	'06 TOTAL YDS
1.	San Diego	<b>LaDainian Tomlinson</b> [1,815]	<b>Michael Turner</b> [502]	2,317
<b>CHARGERS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> The most talented RB pair we've seen in recent NFL history				
2.	Jacksonville	<b>Fred Taylor</b> [1,146]	<b>Maurice Jones-Drew</b> [941]	2,087
<b>JAGUARS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Dangerous duo becomes terrific trio with bruiser Greg Jones back				
3.	Chicago	<b>Thomas Jones</b> [1,210]	<b>Cedric Benson</b> [647]	1,857
<b>BEARS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Benson won't do it alone; the "other" Adrian Peterson could surprise people				
4.	Atlanta	<b>Warrick Dunn</b> [1,140]	<b>Jerious Norwood</b> [633]	1,773
<b>FALCONS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Interestingly, neither Dunn nor Norwood is an ideal fit in Petrino's offense				
5.	Dallas	<b>Julius Jones</b> [1,084]	<b>Marion Barber</b> [654]	1,738
<b>COWBOYS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Jerry Jones has fallen in love with Barber's production (16 TDs in '06)				
6.	Indianapolis	<b>Joseph Addai</b> [1,081]	<b>Dominic Rhodes</b> [641]	1,722
<b>COLTS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Loss of Rhodes could mean more of an Edge-like distribution of carries				
7.	Denver	<b>Tatum Bell</b> [1,025]	<b>Mike Bell</b> [677]	1,702
<b>BRONCOS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Tatum is gone, but Mike still gets second billing with Travis Henry in town				
8.	Washington	<b>Ladell Betts</b> [1,154]	<b>Clinton Portis</b> [523]	1,677
<b>REDSKINS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Those close to Portis think competition could lead to a monster season				
9.	New Orleans	<b>Deuce McAllister</b> [1,057]	<b>Reggie Bush</b> [565]	1,622
<b>SAINTS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> Bush could get more of the rushing load; he averaged only 3.6 YPC in '06				
10.	Seattle	<b>Shaun Alexander</b> [896]	<b>Maurice Morris</b> [604]	1,500
<b>SEAHAWKS' 2007 OUTLOOK:</b> This remains Alexander's lead job, but his '06 struggles opened the door				

starter but were willing to draft bruiser Tony Hunt (even with Buckhalter back in the fold) in the third round. He'll help preserve Westbrook by taking inside carries away.

Necessity can force such an arrangement. The Texans, Packers, Lions, Dolphins and Browns could end up using rotations in case one primary runner doesn't provide enough. The Vikings and Bills drafted Adrian Peterson and Marshawn Lynch, respectively, early in the draft but won't wear down their rookies right away.

One of the most intriguing situations is with the Redskins. Team sources say Clin-

ton Portis should be back healthy and will be determined to bounce back from an injury-plagued '06 season. While he was out, though, Ladell Betts was tremendous, even tying Portis' club record with five straight 100-yard games, and was rewarded with a lucrative, five-year extension that suggests he's more than just Portis' caddy.

Of course, one of the ironies of the situation is that critics have said for years that Portis' hard-running style was going to cause him to break down after 343- and 352-carry seasons with the Redskins.

Maybe this two-back thing is here to stay, after all.





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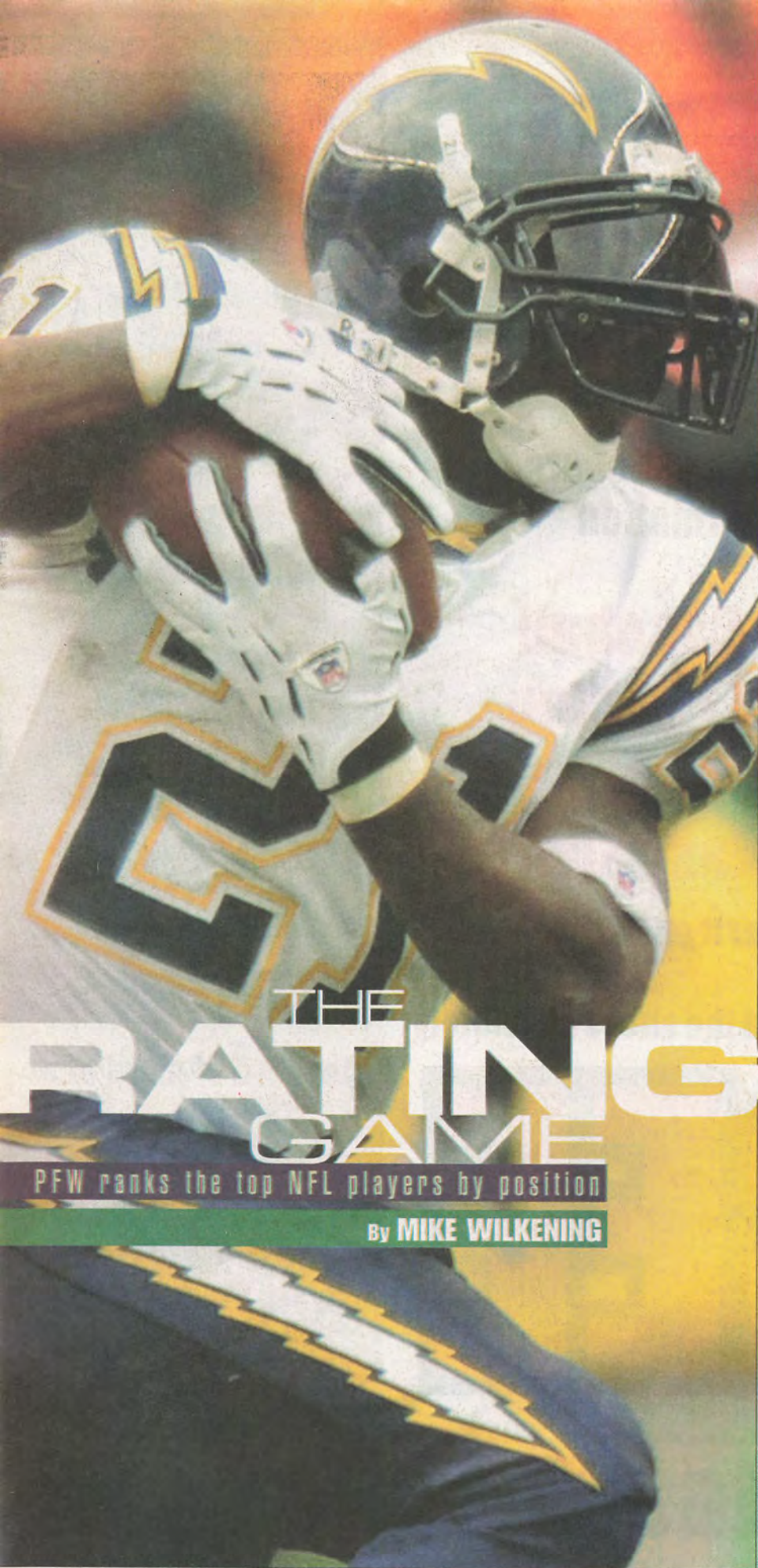
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# THE RATING GAME

PFW ranks the top NFL players by position

By **MIKE WILKENING**

## THE TOP 50

REGARDLESS OF POSITION

- |    |                                     |                      |
|----|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1  | <b>RB LaDainian Tomlinson</b> ..4.8 | SAN DIEGO CHARGERS   |
| 2  | <b>QB Peyton Manning</b> ..4.7      | INDIANAPOLIS COLTS   |
| 3  | <b>QB Tom Brady</b> .....4.7        | NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS |
| 4  | <b>QB Carson Palmer</b> .....4.6    | CINCINNATI BENGALS   |
| 5  | <b>RB Larry Johnson</b> .....4.6    | KANSAS CITY CHIEFS   |
| 6  | <b>RB Steven Jackson</b> .....4.6   | ST. LOUIS RAMS       |
| 7  | <b>CB Champ Bailey</b> .....4.5     | DENVER BRONCOS       |
| 8  | <b>DE Julius Peppers</b> .....4.45  | CAROLINA PANTHERS    |
| 9  | <b>QB Drew Brees</b> .....4.45      | NEW ORLEANS SAINTS   |
| 10 | <b>DE Jason Taylor</b> .....4.4     | MIAMI DOLPHINS       |
| 11 | <b>WR Chad Johnson</b> .....4.4     | CINCINNATI BENGALS   |
| 12 | <b>WR Marvin Harrison</b> ..4.4     | INDIANAPOLIS COLTS   |
| 13 | <b>RB Frank Gore</b> .....4.4       | SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS  |
| 14 | <b>WR Torry Holt</b> .....4.4       | ST. LOUIS RAMS       |
| 15 | <b>WR Steve Smith</b> .....4.4      | CAROLINA PANTHERS    |
| 16 | <b>DE Dwight Freeney</b> .....4.35  | INDIANAPOLIS COLTS   |
| 17 | <b>LB Brian Urlacher</b> .....4.3   | CHICAGO BEARS        |
| 18 | <b>TE Antonio Gates</b> .....4.3    | SAN DIEGO CHARGERS   |
| 19 | <b>WR Andre Johnson</b> .....4.3    | HOUSTON TEXANS       |
| 20 | <b>WR Larry Fitzgerald</b> ..4.3    | ARIZONA CARDINALS    |
| 21 | <b>DE Richard Seymour</b> ..4.25    | NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS |
| 22 | <b>S Ed Reed</b> .....4.2           | BALTIMORE RAVENS     |
| 23 | <b>DT Kevin Williams</b> .....4.2   | MINNESOTA VIKINGS    |



24	<b>NT Jamal Williams</b> ..... 4.2
	SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
25	<b>LB Shawne Merriman</b> ..... 4.15
	SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
26	<b>WR Javon Walker</b> ..... 4.15
	DENVER BRONCOS
27	<b>OT Walter Jones</b> ..... 4.1
	SEATTLE SEAHAWKS
28	<b>LB Julian Peterson</b> ..... 4.1
	SEATTLE SEAHAWKS
29	<b>S Troy Polamalu</b> ..... 4.1
	PITTSBURGH STEELERS
30	<b>WR Reggie Wayne</b> ..... 4.1
	INDIANAPOLIS COLTS
31	<b>NT Casey Hampton</b> ..... 4.1
	PITTSBURGH STEELERS
32	<b>OG Steve Hutchinson</b> ..... 4.1
	MINNESOTA VIKINGS
33	<b>QB Donovan McNabb</b> ..... 4.05
	PHILADELPHIA EAGLES
34	<b>DT Tommie Harris</b> ..... 4.05
	CHICAGO BEARS
35	<b>OT Jammal Brown</b> ..... 4.05
	NEW ORLEANS SAINTS
36	<b>OG Shawn Andrews</b> ..... 4.05
	PHILADELPHIA EAGLES
37	<b>CB Terence Newman</b> ..... 4.05
	DALLAS COWBOYS
38	<b>RB Brian Westbrook</b> ..... 4.05
	PHILADELPHIA EAGLES
39	<b>WR Lee Evans</b> ..... 4.05
	BUFFALO BILLS
40	<b>RB Rudi Johnson</b> ..... 4.05
	CINCINNATI BENGALS
41	<b>TE Tony Gonzalez</b> ..... 4.05
	KANSAS CITY CHIEFS
42	<b>TE Kellen Winslow</b> ..... 4.05
	CLEVELAND BROWNS
43	<b>OT Jonathan Ogden</b> ..... 4.05
	BALTIMORE RAVENS
44	<b>RB Shaun Alexander</b> ..... 4.0
	SEATTLE SEAHAWKS
45	<b>NT Vince Wilfork</b> ..... 4.0
	NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS
46	<b>WR Anquan Boldin</b> ..... 4.0
	ARIZONA CARDINALS
47	<b>DE Michael Strahan</b> ..... 4.0
	NEW YORK GIANTS
48	<b>OG Kris Dielman</b> ..... 4.0
	SAN DIEGO CHARGERS
49	<b>TE Jeremy Shockey</b> ..... 4.0
	NEW YORK GIANTS
50	<b>S Adrian Wilson</b> ..... 4.0
	ARIZONA CARDINALS

The Top 50 list is based on extensive input and analysis provided by numerous NFL front-office personnel.

### Grade scale

**4.0 to 5.0 (BLUE CHIP)** — Pro Bowl-quality player who consistently makes big plays.

**3.0 to 3.99 (RED CHIP)** — Impact player who produces like a starter but falls short in at least one area.

**2.4 to 2.99 (PURPLE)** — Starter who often gets the job done, or a still-developing player who has the potential to get it done.

### Legend

c — Player is at a crossroads.  
d — Player has begun to decline or may soon start to decline.  
u — Player has more upside.  
uu — Player has a huge upside.  
x — Injury concern.

### Criteria for ratings

1. Performance in 2006.
2. Potential.
3. Value to team.
4. Overall career.

With the help of scouts, executives and coaches from around the NFL, Pro Football Weekly has ranked more than 400 players by position. The rankings are based on a player's 2006 production, his value to his team, his career performance and his potential. Our grading rubric is above.

### QUARTERBACKS

RK. NAME / TEAM GRADE COM.

1. **PEYTON MANNING** / COLTS ..... 4.7

Résumé is just about complete after stellar performance in the rain in Super Bowl XLI. Gone are the concerns about his ability to thrive in big games. Manning is masterful at the line of scrimmage, and he almost always makes the right decision. He is in the prime of his career.

2. **TOM BRADY** / PATRIOTS ..... 4.7

Does not have Manning's supporting cast — and, thus, the gaudy statistics — but he is, in the simplest terms, a winner. Can make all the throws and is at his best on the biggest stages.

3. **CARSON PALMER** / BENGALS ..... 4.6

Play in 2006 should not go unappreciated — here was a pocket passer less than a year removed from a serious knee injury, starting all 16 games and throwing for 4,035 yards and 28 touchdowns. Is at home at the helm of one of the NFL's most powerful offenses. Can pick apart any defense. Ability to check into the right play is underrated.

4. **DREW Brees** / SAINTS ..... 4.45

Comes off a career season in 2006. Excellent fit in Sean Payton's flexible, creative attack. Intelligence and accuracy are major assets. You don't hear the whispers you once did about his arm strength and height, if only because he has just about everything else you would want in a quarterback.

5. **DONOVAN MCNABB** / EAGLES ..... 4.05

Was having a very good 2006 season before he suffered a serious knee injury. Not the threat to run that he once was, but has excellent command of Andy Reid's offense and the ability to make all the throws. Will be 31 in November. How he returns from injury will be watched closely — but, then again, everything he does in Philadelphia is watched closely.

6. **MARC BULGER** / RAMS ..... 3.9

Tough, accurate passer who is in the prime of his career. Threw only eight interceptions in 588 attempts last season. As good as he had been in Mike Martz's



**Truly elite:** Peyton Manning removed any remaining doubts about his ability last season

offense, he was awfully sharp in Scott Linehan's attack in '06.

7. **MATT HASSELBECK** / SEAHAWKS ..... 3.9

Will be 32 next season, and he's coming off a season in which he was bothered by hand, shoulder and knee injuries. Underwent surgery on his non-throwing shoulder to repair a torn labrum. Last season he was as inaccurate and inconsistent as he has been in his starting career, but a return to health may be all that he needs.

8. **BEN ROETHLISBERGER** / STEELERS ..... 3.8

Did not take the big leap forward that some had projected in 2006. Injuries certainly played a role, but focus was too often lacking early in games. Nonetheless, has the talent to bounce back in '07. Fearless in the pocket, he'll give his receivers every chance to get open.

9. **CHAD PENNINGTON** / JETS ..... 3.8

It's this simple: When Pennington plays, the Jets are playoff contenders. One of the game's smartest quarterbacks and an excellent leader to boot. Lack of arm strength is an issue at times, but he has come this far in spite of that weakness. A winner.

10. **PHILIP RIVERS** / CHARGERS ..... 3.6

Up to the task of leading AFC's No. 1 seed in 2006, compiling a 92.0 QB rating while throwing 22 TD passes and only nine interceptions. The Chargers' offense was all the more dangerous when head coach Marty Schottenheimer and offensive coordinator Cam Cameron took Rivers out from under wraps and let him roll. Funky delivery is more of a quirk than a hindrance. Did not finish the season especially strong.

11. **VINCE YOUNG** / TITANS ..... 3.55

There are evaluators who will vehemently argue that he doesn't belong on this list just yet, that he has a long way to go with regard to accuracy and reading defenses. That said, he has transformed the Titans from also-rans into playoff contenders. Still developing a pocket presence, and when pressured, his decision-making



could improve.

12. **STEVE MCNAIR** / RAVENS .....**3.45**.....d

McNair improved throughout his first season in Baltimore. He is no longer a major threat to leave the pocket, nor does he have the arm to give the Ravens a strong vertical passing game. But he knows what to do with the ball, and he is the clear leader of a once-rudderless offense. However, will he be the Ravens' starter beyond 2007?

13. **MICHAEL VICK** / FALCONS .....**3.4**.....c;u

This could be a make-or-break season for Vick in Atlanta. New head coach Bobby Petrino will give him more responsibility at the line of scrimmage, a decision that could pay major dividends for team and quarterback if Vick is up to the task. Vick is capable of just about anything a quarterback can do, but he's far too inaccurate a passer — and Petrino wants him to complete 65 percent of his passes. Evaluators also question his leadership ability. However, he has been victimized by some poor play at the WR position over the years, and the addition of former Saints WR Joe Horn could be just what he needs to take a step forward.

14. **BRETT FAVRE** / PACKERS .....**3.4**.....d

No quarterback threw more regular-season passes (613) last season. That's a lot to ask of a player who's entering his 17th NFL season. Arm strength is still

above-average, but he's prone to taking too many undue risks with the ball.

15. **TONY ROMO** / COWBOYS .....**3.4**.....u

Romo is so fun to watch when in rhythm — here is a former backup who learned his lessons well in his seasons on the bench in Dallas. Moreover, he has one of the NFC's better supporting casts. He does not have a strong arm, and he makes some questionable decisions at times, but he should only get better in his second season as a starter.

16. **MATT LEINART** / CARDINALS .....**3.35**.....uu

Leinart's grasp of the professional game impressed evaluators in his first NFL season. Very instinctive and tough to stop when he gets in rhythm. Play started to take off in the season's final month, and there are some who would take him over any other quarterback in what is shaping up to be a talented Class of '06.

17. **ELI MANNING** / GIANTS .....**3.1**.....u

Manning is struggling to live up to being the No. 1 pick in the nation's biggest media market. He doesn't lack for physical talent, but how do you explain all the questionable decisions in close games? Also, his mechanics aren't always as sound as they should be. The Giants hope a gutsy performance in a playoff loss to Philadelphia will be the start of bigger things. You have to wonder about the type of support he's getting, though, from

a supporting cast full of me-first players and a head coach (Tom Coughlin) who is not known for his powers of positive reinforcement.

18. **ALEX SMITH** / 49ERS .....**3.1**.....uu

The No. 1 overall pick in 2005, Smith started to play like a franchise quarterback in the second half of last season. He's working with his third offensive coordinator in three seasons; will that affect his development? Looked like a completely different quarterback when he worked with then-offensive coordinator Norv Turner. Has a very exciting future.

19. **J.P. LOSMAN** / BILLS .....**3.0**.....u

Throws a beautiful deep ball and took a step forward in his overall game in 2006, including the intangible aspects of the position. Still prone to forcing some throws at times, but could be primed for more improvement in '07 after finishing last season on a good note.

20. **REX GROSSMAN** / BEARS .....**3.0**.....u

Few quarterbacks endured the peaks and valleys that Grossman endured in 2006. He is on the short side for a quarterback, and he is prone to forcing the ball into coverage with an eye on the big play. What's more, he is not the most accurate passer when it comes to short throws. However, he has a strong arm, and his resiliency in the eye of public criticism last season was impressive.

### BEST OF THE REST

21. **JAKE DELHOMME** / PANTHERS .....**3.0**.....c

22. **DAVID CARR** / PANTHERS .....**3.0**.....u; c

23. **TRENT GREEN** / CHIEFS .....**3.0**.....d

24. **JON KITNA** / LIONS .....**3.0**.....u

25. **JEFF GARCIA** / BUCCANEERS .....**2.95**.....d

26. **BYRON LEFTWICH** / JAGUARS .....**2.9**.....c

### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

DEREK ANDERSON / BROWNS

KYLE BOLLER / RAVENS

JASON CAMPBELL / REDSKINS

BRODIE CROYLE / CHIEFS

JAY CUTLER / BRONCOS

A.J. FEELEY / EAGLES

CHARLIE FRYE / BROWNS

JOSH McCOWN / RAIDERS

PATRICK RAMSEY / BRONCOS

MATT SCHAUB / TEXANS

### NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY

DAUNTE CULPEPPER / DOLPHINS

### PAST THEIR PRIME

MARK BRUNELL / REDSKINS

BRAD JOHNSON / COWBOYS

KURT WARNER / CARDINALS

## RUNNING BACKS

RK NAME / TEAM

GRADE COM.

1. **LaDAINIAN TOMLINSON** / CHARGERS .....**4.8**.....u

Comes off one of the finest seasons a running back has ever had. Tomlinson is a back for all situations and for all seasons. He is strong in short-yardage situations. He is as good as gone if he gets a step on most defensive backs. He can catch the ball out of the backfield. Tomlinson's yardage per carry has increased in each of the past three seasons, and he has missed only one game in six NFL campaigns.

2. **LARRY JOHNSON** / CHIEFS .....**4.6**.....u

For much of the last two seasons, Johnson has been one of the NFL's most reliable running backs. He has also been one of the league's most brilliant runners — a bruiser who has an extra gear, too. Johnson was regarded as a handful to deal with, off the field, earlier in his career, but there is little doubt about his willingness to take the ball on game day. Johnson took an NFL-record 416 handoffs last season; Chiefs fans and league executives alike are interested to see how he responds after carrying such a heavy load.

3. **STEVEN JACKSON** / RAMS .....**4.6**.....u

The centerpiece of Scott Linehan's offense, Jackson racked up 2,334 total yards in 2006. He has built a rep-

**Workhorse.** The Chiefs aren't afraid to give the ball to RB Larry Johnson early and often



HARRY SCULL JR.



utation as one of the game's premier all-around backs. He caught 90 passes last season, more than twice as many as he had the previous season. Jackson is strong enough to thrive between the tackles and shifty enough to break off a big run.

4. **FRANK GORE** / 49ERS ..... **4.4** ..uu

In a league full of top competitors, Gore stands out for his competitive fire. And, let us not forget, he's very talented, too. Gore has racked up more than five yards per carry during his brief career, a testament to his big-play ability and his ability to stay on his feet. At 5-9, 212 pounds, he doesn't have the size of a traditional workhorse back, and 49ers head coach Mike Nolan does a good job of using him correctly.

5. **BRIAN WESTBROOK** / EAGLES ..... **4.05** ..x

Westbrook, who will be 28 at the start of the regular season, is one of the league's finest all-around backs. He can be deadly when he gets the ball in space, and few backs catch the ball better. However, he has never played a full season, and there are questions about how long he will be able to play at a high level because of a chronic knee injury. Nevertheless, he has crafted a remarkable career for himself.

6. **RUDI JOHNSON** / BENGALS ..... **4.05** ..c

Johnson is not the biggest or fastest back. But he is durable, and he has a knack for getting the most out of every carry. Johnson's toughness and reliability are his trademarks, and he'll get his yards even against tough run defenses.

7. **SHAUN ALEXANDER** / SEAHAWKS ..... **4.0** ..c;x;d

His yardage per carry plummeted from 5.1 to 3.6 in 2006, and he appeared a step slower than he had in '05. However, he played with a foot injury for much of the season. Also, the Seahawks' offensive line never adjusted to the loss of OLG Steve Hutchinson as a free agent. With an offseason of rest, Alexander could be poised for a bounce-back season.

8. **RONNIE BROWN** / DOLPHINS ..... **3.95** ..uu

Racked up more than four yards per carry last season running behind an offensive line that didn't create much room for him. Brown is strong and quick and ready to play his best football. Consider these factors: Brown hasn't been overused (448 career carries), and now he gets to play in an offense designed by new head coach Cam Cameron.

9. **REGGIE BUSH** / SAINTS ..... **3.95** ..uu

Why such a lofty ranking for a second-year running back who made more of an impact as a pass catcher in 2006? Well, a suspicion that he's going to take a big step forward as a runner in his second season, for starters. Also, few players create as many matchup problems. Bush is so dangerous in the passing game, and he is a threat to score every time he takes a handoff. It's no surprise, then, that few teams run the reverse as well as the Saints when Bush is in the game.

10. **JOSEPH ADDAI** / COLTS ..... **3.9** ..uu

Starred as a rookie, when he shared carries with Dominic Rhodes. With Rhodes moving on to Oakland, look for Addai to get 300 carries or more in his sophomore season. If the way he came on as a rookie is any indication, the Colts have to be very excited about the prospect of giving him even more work. Addai is quick to the hole and boasts good vision. He runs the stretch play very well.

11. **DEUCE MCALLISTER** / SAINTS ..... **3.9**

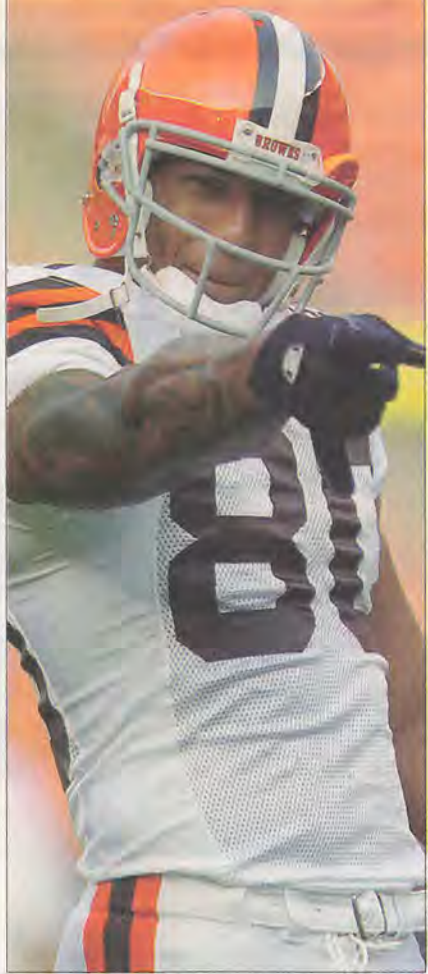
McAllister is a testament to the value of hard work. His 2005 season was cut short by a knee injury, and the Saints selected Reggie Bush No. 2 overall in the '06 draft. But McAllister was every bit as important as Bush to the Saints' attack last season, providing Sean Payton's offense with a powerful, between-the-tackles runner. His speed and ability to cut are back to pre-injury levels. And don't overlook McAllister's quickness — scouts surely recall what a freakish athlete he was in his collegiate days at Ole Miss.

12. **CLINTON PORTIS** / REDSKINS ..... **3.85** ..c;x

Injuries ruined Portis' 2006 season, and that opened the door for longtime Redskins reserve Ladell Betts to open some eyes with his play. Some evaluators believe Portis' slight build puts him at greater risk for injury, and the Redskins are likely to use Betts quite a bit this season, with an eye toward keeping Portis fresh. Portis' career in Washington could be at a crossroads.

13. **WILLIE PARKER** / STEELERS ..... **3.7**

Parker has been a productive, gamebreaking starter for Pittsburgh the past two seasons. Has exceptional first-step quickness and bursts through the hole. His speed can leave defenses grasping at straws and gasp-



DAVID DUROCHIK / SPORTPICS

**Beware:** A healthy Kellen Winslow is a dangerous weapon in an otherwise feeble Browns offense

ing for air. Not a big part of the passing game. Some scouts say he's not exceptional in any other area, save for that blazing speed.

14. **WILLIS MCGAHEE** / RAVENS ..... **3.7** ..c

The Ravens traded three draft picks for McGahee, who replaces Jamal Lewis as Baltimore's featured back. McGahee doesn't have the burst Lewis had in his prime, but he's quicker than Lewis is presently and has the bulk that the Ravens' brass prefers in its running backs. How he fares in a new system — and running behind an offensive line that didn't open as many holes as Lewis would have liked — remains to be seen.

15. **EDGERRIN JAMES** / CARDINALS ..... **3.6** ..c;d

James has lost a step to age, but he remains a productive, starter-caliber back. He catches the ball well out of the backfield, and his vision is a major asset. He has endured a lot of wear and tear over the years, and the Cardinals are likely to start grooming a replacement soon.

16. **CHESTER TAYLOR** / VIKINGS ..... **3.6** ..uu

Like Edgerrin James, Taylor is known for his excellent vision. Taylor proved he could be a bell-cow back in 2006, when the Vikings made him the centerpiece of their offense. More quick than fast, Taylor catches the ball well and is a good fit in Brad Childress' offense. Durability may be a question.

17. **CADILLAC WILLIAMS** / BUCCANEERS ..... **3.55** ..u,x

Williams' sophomore season was disappointing because of injury and Tampa Bay's feeble offense. Some question whether Williams is big enough to be a workhorse back, and his durability can also be scrutinized, as he's missed a pair of games in both NFL seasons. Williams is a top-notch competitor with natural run skills who might just need an improved supporting cast to shine.

18. **THOMAS JONES** / JETS ..... **3.5**

The Jets were pleased to add this former Bears standout for simply swapping second-round selections in the '07 draft. Jones may be the most sculpted running back in the game — have you seen his arms? — and his dedication to his craft is very impressive. He should

fit right in with the Jets because of his production and no-nonsense approach.

19. **MICHAEL TURNER** / CHARGERS ..... **3.5** ..uu

Why is LaDainian Tomlinson's backup on the list? Because he could start for quite a few teams right now — and he'll likely get a lucrative contract when he hits unrestricted free agency next spring. Evaluators agreed that Turner was more talented than any back available in unrestricted free agency in '07. He is a powerful inside runner who boasts an extra gear, and his strong lower body allows him to run through tackles.

20. **WARRICK DUNN** / FALCONS ..... **3.35** ..d

A little man who has thrived in a big man's game, Dunn remains one of the quickest backs around. Jerious Norwood may be Atlanta's back of the future, but Dunn is the back of the present, a pillar in the Falcons' locker room and a shining example for his younger teammates.

### BEST OF THE REST

21. **LADELL BETTS** / REDSKINS ..... **3.35** ..u

22. **LAURENCE MARONEY** / PATRIOTS ..... **3.3** ..u;x

23. **JAMAL LEWIS** / BROWNS ..... **3.3** ..d;c;x

24. **MAURICE JONES-DREW** / JAGUARS ..... **3.25** ..u

25. **FRED TAYLOR** / JAGUARS ..... **3.25** ..d

26. **TRAVIS HENRY** / BRONCOS ..... **3.2**

27. **LaMONT JORDAN** / RAIDERS ..... **3.1** ..x

28. **JULIUS JONES** / COWBOYS ..... **3.1**

29. **MARION BARBER** / COWBOYS ..... **3.1** ..u

30. **AHMAN GREEN** / TEXANS ..... **3.0** ..d

### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

TATUM BELL / LIONS

CEDRIC BENSON / BEARS

BRANDON JACOBS / GIANTS

JERIOUS NORWOOD / FALCONS

LEON WASHINGTON / JETS

DeANGELO WILLIAMS / PANTHERS

### NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY

KEVIN JONES / LIONS

CHRIS PERRY / BENGALS

### TIGHT ENDS

RK NAME / TEAM

GRADE COM.

1. **ANTONIO GATES** / CHARGERS ..... **4.3** ..u

The current standard-bearer at his position, Gates has caught 241 passes in the last three seasons. At 6-4, 260 pounds, Gates has ideal size for the position, and he is among the quicker tight ends in the game. His blocking has also improved. No tight end is more dangerous in the passing game than this former Kent State power forward. Difference-maker.

2. **TONY GONZALEZ** / CHIEFS ..... **4.05** ..c

Still one of the league's more dependable pass catchers at his position, Gonzalez remains the top target in Kansas City. Gonzalez's consistency — nine consecutive seasons of 59 catches or more — is all the more impressive when you consider the Chiefs' wide receivers have rarely scared the opposition in recent years. Gonzalez's durability is also quite impressive; he has played 158-of-160 regular season games in 10 NFL seasons. He isn't quite the big-play threat he was earlier in his career, but the Chiefs' decision to extend his contract last season is an indication that the team believes he can still play at a high level.

3. **KELLEN WINSLOW** / BROWNS ..... **4.05** ..u,x

Winslow missed most of his first two seasons with injuries, but his third NFL campaign showed what he's capable of when he's (relatively) healthy. Winslow caught 89 passes for 875 yards and three touchdowns in 2006 despite a lingering knee injury that bothered him all season. Winslow had microfracture surgery on the knee after the season, and he's expected to be ready for training camp. While Winslow may never be quite the physical specimen he was at Miami (Fla.), he can still be counted among the more athletic players at his position. He is a threat both on short and deep passes and is QB Charlie Frye's favorite target in key situations. Winslow is a fierce competitor, but his emotions sometimes get the best of him, and he hasn't matured as quickly as the Browns would have hoped. But there is no doubting his importance to the Cleveland offense.

4. **JEREMY SHOCKEY** / GIANTS ..... **4.0** ..x

Shockey is a premier talent and competitor who plays hurt and helps the Giants' offense in many ways. Shock-



ey is a good blocker and a threat to get down the field in the passing game, but only two of his 66 catches went for 20 yards or longer last season, compared to 12-of-65 in '05. Shockey takes a pounding; he has missed one game in each of the past three seasons. His occasional outbursts can be distracting to his teammates.

#### 5. **ALGE CRUMPLER** / FALCONS ..... **4.0**

Atlanta's most dependable pass catcher, Crumpler is one of the game's more well-rounded tight ends. Crumpler has good quickness for the position, and he has good hands. He has started 34 consecutive games, including playoffs, but did battle some nagging injuries last season.

#### 6. **JASON WITTEN** / COWBOYS ..... **3.8**

Only 25, Witten's best football may be ahead of him. His receptions have declined in recent seasons as the Cowboys have started to get more out of their wide receivers, but he is a very important part of the passing game. Witten is also a sound blocker.

#### 7. **TODD HEAP** / RAVENS ..... **3.8**

One of the AFC's top tight ends, Heap has long been a security blanket for Baltimore's quarterbacks. He is not quite as quick as he was earlier in his career, and the Ravens don't use him as much down the field as they once did, but he's an integral part of the offense. His blocking has improved over the years, but it's not his best attribute.

#### 8. **CHRIS COOLEY** / REDSKINS ..... **3.6**.....U

After a slow start to 2006, Cooley closed the season well (22 catches in December). With Jason Campbell entering the lineup full time, look for Cooley's production to increase in 2007. There are few better targets as tight ends go. Cooley is quick enough to make linebackers and safeties pay, as evidenced by 12 catches of 20 yards or longer last season. A player to watch.

#### 9. **BEN WATSON** / PATRIOTS ..... **3.6**.....UU

Has become a bigger part of the Patriots' offense in the past two seasons. Watson's biggest asset is his speed; he can get down the seam, and he had two 40-yard catches in 2006. The loss of Daniel Graham means he'll have to step up as a blocker, which is not the strongest part of his game.

#### 10. **DALLAS CLARK** / COLTS ..... **3.45**.....X

When healthy, Clark is a major weapon for the Colts, who are fond of putting him in the slot and letting him create matchup problems. Twenty-six of his 121 career catches have gone for 20 yards or longer, which is a good reflection of his strength, speed and toughness. However, he has yet to play a full NFL season, and at 28, durability questions abound for the Iowa product.

### BEST OF THE REST

11. **L.J. SMITH** / EAGLES ..... **3.45**  
 12. **VERNON DAVIS** / 49ERS ..... **3.4** X; UU  
 13. **RANDY McMICHAEL** / RAMS ..... **3.4**  
 14. **HEATH MILLER** / STEELERS ..... **3.3**  
 15. **DANIEL GRAHAM** / BRONCOS ..... **3.2**

### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

OWEN DANIELS / TEXANS  
 ANTHONY FASANO / COWBOYS  
 MICHAEL GAINES / PANTHERS  
 JOE KLOPFENSTEIN / RAMS  
 LEONARD POPE / CARDINALS  
 BO SCAIFE / TITANS  
 TONY SCHEFFLER / BRONCOS  
 ALEX SMITH / BUCCANEERS  
 DAVID THOMAS / PATRIOTS

### PAST THEIR PRIME

KYLE BRADY / PATRIOTS  
 MARCUS POLLARD / SEAHAWKS

### WIDE RECEIVERS

- RK NAME / TEAM ..... GRADE COM.  
 1. **CHAD JOHNSON** / BENGALS ..... **4.4**  
 Johnson gets high marks for just about every aspect of his game. He is an excellent route runner. He can get open deep. He is willing to go over the middle. And he can be downright dominant when he is at the top of his game. Johnson was as good as he has ever been in a five-game stretch last November, catching 36 passes for 695 yards and five touchdowns. A player who has been known to sleep at the team facility, Johnson has a burning desire to be the best, which sometimes gets lost in



**Determined:** Chad Johnson works hard to be the best wide receiver, despite his playful nature

his persistent, playful boasting.

#### 2. **MARVIN HARRISON** / COLTS ..... **4.4**

A sure-fire Hall of Famer, Harrison has caught at least 10 TD passes in eight straight seasons. Another remarkable statistic: Harrison — who will be 35 as of Week One — has seen his average per catch increase from 12.9 to 14.0 to 14.4 in the last three seasons. Harrison is an excellent route runner who shreds inferior competition. If there is a knock on Harrison, it's that he can struggle against physical opponents.

#### 3. **TORRY HOLT** / RAMS ..... **4.4**

As technically sound as any player at his position, Holt can do everything a receiver needs to do. Holt can run every route in the route tree and is adept at getting the best of young defensive backs. At age 31, Holt is still at the top of his game.

#### 4. **STEVE SMITH** / PANTHERS ..... **4.4**.....X

A hamstring injury limited Smith to 14 games last season and robbed him of his trademark burst at times, but Smith was productive and dangerous nonetheless. Evaluators marvel at the 5-9, 185-pound Smith's strength and note he's one of the game's very best route runners because of his might and that aforementioned explosiveness. If he can stay healthy, Smith could be as productive as he was in 2005, when no receiver was more important to his club.

#### 5. **ANDRE JOHNSON** / TEXANS ..... **4.3**.....U

Johnson has it all — size, speed, good hands. Opponents go into games trying to take away Johnson because the Texans don't have another receiver even close to his class on the roster, but the Miami (Fla.) product still manages to get open. Simply one of the toughest matchups around for cornerbacks throughout

the league.

#### 6. **LARRY FITZGERALD** / CARDINALS ..... **4.3**.....UU

Missed three games with injury in 2006 and wasn't quite the downfield threat he was the previous season, but we are talking about a player who will be 24 years old as of Week One, and the prime of his career promises to be very exciting.

#### 7. **JAVON WALKER** / BRONCOS ..... **4.15** X; U

Walker fit in perfectly in Mike Shanahan's offense, and he made an excellent recovery from a serious knee injury that had ended his final season in Green Bay. So dangerous on vertical routes, Walker has exceptional speed and is very competitive. Broncos observers marvel at how well he played a season ago and say he'll be even better in '07.

#### 8. **REGGIE WAYNE** / COLTS ..... **4.1**.....U

Some scouts say Wayne may be Marvin Harrison's equal at this point in his career. Productive, durable — he has started every game the past four seasons — and with better deep speed than you think, Wayne has developed into a No. 1-caliber receiver.

#### 9. **LEE EVANS** / BILLS ..... **4.05**.....UU

One of the game's top vertical threats, Evans developed nicely in 2006, his third NFL season. He's a personal favorite of some scouts, who note he doesn't get the publicity he would get in a major media market. There are few scarier sights to opposing defenses than Evans breaking free and running under a lofted bomb from J.P. Losman.

#### 10. **ANQUAN BOLDIN** / CARDINALS ..... **4.0**.....U; X

Carries himself like a No. 1 receiver and plays like one, too. He may not time fast, but he plays fast, and he



is as physical as they come at the receiver position. Thrives on underneath routes but can get deep, too.

# 11. ROY WILLIAMS / LIONS .....3.95

A physical marvel, Williams came into his own in 2006. Williams played in all 16 games — something he had never done in his NFL career — and he racked up career highs in almost every major statistical category. Williams is one of the game's more explosive players at his position, boasting excellent speed and leaping ability. Made major strides in his first season in Mike Martz's offense.

# 12. DONALD DRIVER / PACKERS .....3.9

As tough as they come, Driver has made himself into a go-to receiver. He is not blessed with great speed, but he's fearless, and Brett Favre trusts no current Packers receiver as much. A favorite of some scouts, who just love the way he plays the game. Very productive.

# 13. TERRELL OWENS / COWBOYS .....3.8

Built like Adonis, Owens remains a threat to score every time he touches the ball. But at this point in his career, his baggage is almost equal to his credentials. Owens drops too many passes, doesn't always give 100 percent and can hurt a team with his negative personality. Also, he's not quite as explosive as he once was. Nevertheless, he produces like a No. 1 receiver the majority of the time.

# 14. SANTANA MOSS / REDSKINS .....3.75

The speedy, diminutive Moss is the Redskins' top target. A hamstring injury bothered Moss last season, and he wasn't the threat he had been in 2005. His speed is his calling card, and if that's compromised, he is not nearly as effective.

# 15. LAVERANUES COLES / JETS .....3.7

Not the burner he was earlier in his career, when he was the speedy complement to Peter Warrick at Florida State, but he has developed into one of the league's savviest pass catchers. Coles and QB Chad Pennington have a strong rapport, and with good reason: Coles is tough, quick and knows how to get open.

# 16. HINES WARD / STEELERS .....3.5

Ward has long been a player who has gotten the most of his ability. He blocks exceptionally well for a receiver, and his toughness is no secret. However, will the physical way he plays the game catch up to him at some point? Well, last season, at age 30, Ward caught 74 passes for 975 yards and six TDs, indications Ward remains a dangerous target.

# 17. CHRIS CHAMBERS / DOLPHINS .....3.45

After an excellent 2005 campaign (82 catches, 1,118 yards, 11 touchdowns), Chambers struggled in '06. The Dolphins' inconsistent QB play was a factor, but some wonder if Chambers is just a No. 2 receiver with No. 1-wideout talent. The game-to-game consistency just isn't there for Chambers.

# 18. T.J. HOUSHMANDZADEH / BENGALS .....3.4

Houshmandzadeh is one of the game's better complementary receivers. More quick than fast, Houshmandzadeh runs great routes and boasts a great pair of hands. However, he is not the most durable receiver around — he has played in all 16 games only twice in his six-year career.

# 19. RANDY MOSS / PATRIOTS .....3.35

A marvelous talent, yes, but Moss doesn't always come to play, and everyone knows it. His commitment to the game is questionable. When focused, he ranks among the very best at his position, but his play has dropped off sharply in recent seasons. Scouts insist he still possesses game-changing ability.

# 20. DEION BRANCH / SEAHAWKS .....3.35

Branch's first season in Seattle was marked by inconsistency. He is very quick, and he has come up big on the most important stages. The Seahawks expect him to have a much bigger role in the offense in 2007. He's capable of becoming Matt Hasselbeck's go-to receiver in short order, especially with Darrell Jackson having been dealt to the 49ers.

# 21. PLAXICO BURRESS / GIANTS .....3.3

Burress ranks among the game's better No. 2 receivers, but he disappears for stretches. Nor is he as strong a target on jump balls and on red-zone throws as you would expect a 6-foot-5 receiver to be. However,

he's one of the NFC's top vertical threats, and you can generally pencil him in for about 60 receptions and 15 yards per catch.

# 22. MARK CLAYTON / RAVENS .....3.3

Clayton is a player on the rise. He has surpassed Derrick Mason as the Ravens' receiver whom opposing defenses most fear. Scouts will tell you Clayton lacks sprinter's speed, but he gets open deep nonetheless. Blessed with a good feel of the game, Clayton's best football is ahead of him. Durability is a concern.

# 23. DARRELL JACKSON / 49ERS .....3.2

Jackson has missed 13 regular-season games in the past two seasons, and was dealt by Seattle to San Francisco during draft weekend. When healthy, Jackson can be very difficult to handle. He plays faster than he times, and he can be a bona fide No. 1 receiver. But drops have been a problem for him, and you have to wonder about his ability to stay healthy.

# 24. TERRY GLENN / COWBOYS .....3.1

Still a threat to get deep and a consistent complement to Terrell Owens, Glenn remains an integral part of the Cowboys' offense.

# 25. MARQUES COLSTON / SAINTS .....3.1

Colston comes off a remarkable rookie season, one that saw him emerge as an important part of the New Orleans offense. Colston has good size, and his height and strength make him a nice, big target on slants.

## BEST OF THE REST

# 26. DONTÉ STALLWORTH / PATRIOTS .....3.05

# 27. BERNARD BERRIAN / BEARS .....3.05

# 28. BRAYLON EDWARDS / BROWNS .....3.05

# 29. JERRICO COTCHERY / JETS .....3.0

# 30. DREW BENNETT / RAMS .....3.0

# 31. REGGIE BROWN / EAGLES .....3.0

# 32. JOEY GALLOWAY / BUCCANEERS .....3.0

## TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

ARNAZ BATTLE / 49ERS

D.J. HACKETT / SEAHAWKS

SANTONIO HOLMES / STEELERS

CHAD JACKSON / PATRIOTS

VINCENT JACKSON / CHARGERS

GREG JENNINGS / PACKERS

BRYANT JOHNSON / CARDINALS

BRANDON JONES / TITANS

MATT JONES / JAGUARS

BRANDON MARSHALL / BRONCOS

SINORCE MOSS / GIANTS

WES WELKER / PATRIOTS

DEMETRIUS WILLIAMS / RAVENS

REGGIE WILLIAMS / JAGUARS

## PAST THEIR PRIME

JOE HORN / FALCONS

KEYSHAWN JOHNSON / FREE AGENT

ERIC MOULDS / FREE AGENT  
ROD SMITH / BRONCOS

## CENTERS

RK NAME / TEAM GRADE COM.

# 1. OLIN KREUTZ / BEARS .....4.0

Known for his mean streak and his leadership ability, Kreutz is the heart and soul of the Chicago offensive line. Kreutz plays with good leverage and holds his own against bigger offensive linemen. Plays with sound technique. Is as tough as they come, as evidenced by the fact he's started every game the past four seasons. A player QB Rex Grossman can count on to get the line settled, Kreutz is still in the prime of his career at age 30.

# 2. JEFF SATURDAY / COLTS .....3.9

The 6-2, 295-pound Saturday has made himself into a Pro Bowl-caliber player. He is cerebral and strong, and he has had a lot on his plate working with the always-ready-to-audible Peyton Manning over the years. Has the athleticism to get to the second level and the strength and technique to handle superior size. Was penalized only twice last season, and he allowed just one sack.

# 3. MATT BIRK / VIKINGS .....3.5

After missing the 2005 season with hip and sports hernia injuries, Birk bounced back to start all 16 games in 2006. Extremely intelligent, Birk utilizes veteran savvy as his greatest asset at this stage of his career. Struggled with pass blocking last season, more so than he ever had in his career. Nevertheless, he remains a very important member of the Vikings' offensive line. Also, as scouts point out, older centers are some of the craftiest players around.

# 4. TOM NALEN / BRONCOS .....3.3

Evaluators say the Denver offensive line is a joy to watch because of the way it works together, and Nalen is a major reason why this group has played so well for so long. Simply put, Nalen sets the tone for the offensive line. Smallish but quick, Nalen helps get his mates lined up correctly and is a master at calling out what he sees from the opponent. He is an excellent technician.

# 5. NICK HARDWICK / CHARGERS .....3.25

The 6-4, 295-pound Hardwick bounced back from a down 2005 season and contributed to an excellent campaign from San Diego's offensive line, which opened some big holes for RB LaDainian Tomlinson. Hardwick's greatest asset is his athleticism. At his best, he beats his opponents to the punch, but he has had some problems with bigger, stronger defensive linemen.

# 6. ANDRE GURODE / COWBOYS .....3.25

Gurode, 29, started all 16 games last season, and the Cowboys signed him to a new contract after the season. The 6-4, 312-pound Gurode has excellent size for the position and excellent body control. His biggest weakness may be a lack of quickness. Pass-rushing defensive tackles can pose a problem for Gurode. Penalties have also been an issue in the past.

# 7. NICK MANGOLD / JETS .....3.25

Mangold was a smash hit as a rookie. He did a tough

DAVID DUROCHIK / SPORTSPICS



**O-line leader:** C Olin Kreutz is a rock of stability whom Rex Grossman can count on



job extremely well and didn't make many mistakes. Evaluators want to see him follow up his excellent first season with another strong one, and a vault up these rankings could then be in order. Mangold is an excellent technician for a player his age and has good quickness for the position. Could become a blue-chip player in short order as he refines his craft.

**8 KEVIN MAWAE / TITANS** .....**3.2** .....d  
A tough, experienced center who started all 16 games in his first season in Tennessee. Mawae, 36, gives the Titans a steady influence on the line. Strong and technically sound, Mawae holds his own against younger, stronger competition. Still a very solid player, though age is a factor.

**9 DOMINIC RAIOLA / LIONS** .....**3.15** .....d  
Raiola is tough and athletic. He doesn't make many mistakes, and he gets the most out of his ability. Raiola is durable and dependable; in what has been a tough stretch for the Lions, he has been a stalwart. Raiola's biggest weakness is a lack of size (6-1, 295), which he works to overcome by doing his job by the book and being quicker than the opposition.

**10 SHAUN O'HARA / GIANTS** .....**3.0** .....d  
O'Hara isn't the greatest athlete, but he's a very solid player, and the Giants took him off the free-agent market in short order. Scouts say O'Hara works well on combination blocks and uses his hands very well. O'Hara is quick to the punch and plays with good technique. Pulls well, though he is not exactly fleet of foot. Savvy veteran.

**11 CASEY RABACH / REDSKINS** .....**3.0** .....c  
Rabach's athleticism is his greatest asset. Played better in 2006 than he did the previous season, when he struggled at times. Tough and plays hurt. Solid technique.

**12 TODD MCCLURE / FALCONS** .....**3.0** .....c  
A smaller, quicker player who fit Atlanta's cut-blocking scheme well, McClure is well-regarded by evaluators, who say he's a bit underrated. Gets good position and plays with good technique. Has gotten better in pass

protection over the years and wins his share of battles vs. massive defensive linemen. Durable and reliable and a very important part of the Falcons' offensive line.

**13 CASEY WIEGMANN / CHIEFS** .....**2.95** .....d  
Wiegmann turns 34 in July, but he's still a capable starter. Wiegmann has overcome a lack of size (6-2, 285) throughout his career by using his quickness to get an edge. His footwork is quite good, and he can get to the second level. Moves well laterally. Isn't the strongest center around and is not explosive, but he knows how to play the game, and the Chiefs use him correctly.

**14 JEFF FAINE / SAINTS** .....**2.95** .....d  
Faine has jump-started his career in New Orleans. Faine isn't the most physical center around, and he is not especially explosive. Those traits didn't sit well with his former team, the Browns, who wanted more of a mauler to deal with the massive defensive tackles within the division. Works to the second level and uses his athleticism to his advantage. May finally start to reach his potential.

**15 ERIC HEITMANN / 49ERS** .....**2.9** .....d  
Heitmann had a breakout season in 2006. He's athletic and quick off the ball and played a major role in the 49ers' success running the football last season. Heitmann is coming off a broken right leg suffered in the Dec. 14 win vs. Seattle.

#### BEST OF THE REST

- 16 DAN KOPPEN / PATRIOTS** .....**2.8** .....d  
**17 RICHIE INCOGNITO / RAMS** .....**2.75** .....u  
**18 HANK FRALEY / BROWNS** .....**2.7** .....d  
**19 BRAD MEESTER / JAGUARS** .....**2.7** .....d  
**20 JAKE GROVE / RAIDERS** .....**2.7** .....d  
**21 JUSTIN HARTWIG / PANTHERS** .....**2.7** .....x

#### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

CHRIS CHESTER / RAVENS  
JAMAAL JACKSON / EAGLES

CHRIS SPENCER / SEAHAWKS  
SCOTT WELLS / PACKERS

**NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY**  
LeCHARLES BENTLEY / BROWNS

### OFFENSIVE GUARDS

RK NAME / TEAM GRADE COM.

- 1 STEVE HUTCHINSON / VIKINGS** .....**4.1** .....u  
At his best, Hutchinson is the league's most dominant guard. The Seahawks' running game wasn't the same without him last season, and he had a major impact on the Vikings' offense in his first season in Minnesota. Hutchinson is big, strong and athletic, and he pulls well. Some evaluators say that Hutchinson didn't have his best season in 2006; nonetheless, he is tops at his position.
- 2 SHAWN ANDREWS / EAGLES** .....**4.05** .....u  
A massive guard, Andrews took a big step forward in 2006. The move inside has been the right one for the former Arkansas tackle. The 6-4, 340-pound Andrews is very athletic for his size, and he can be a force in the running game. His work ethic has been questioned in the past, but he has developed nicely. Can neutralize defenders when he gets his hands on them.
- 3 KRIS DIELMAN / CHARGERS** .....**4.0** .....u  
Dielman has made himself into one of the league's top left guards. The converted defensive lineman has, in the opinion of some scouts, developed into a guard who could be the centerpiece of the offensive line. Dielman is a strong, tenacious grinder whose competitiveness stands out. Has fun playing the game, and it shows on film. A tough guy in the throwback mold.
- 4 ALAN FANECIA / STEELERS** .....**4.0** .....u  
Some Steelers observers say Faneca played as well as he ever had at various points of last season. He can be downright devastating in the run game, and the Steelers do their best running to the left, Faneca's side. To wit: RB Willie Parker gained 4.6 yards per carry running left last season, compared to 4.2 up the middle and 3.7 to the right side. However, some evaluators say Faneca didn't play to his normal high standard, and there is some sentiment that he's entering the downside of his career.

**5 ERIC STEINBACH / BROWNS** .....**3.9** .....u  
Steinbach signed a seven-year, \$49.5 million contract with the Browns to play left guard, but he can also play left tackle. And his former OL coach, Paul Alexander of the Bengals, has wondered what type of center Steinbach would be. He is athletic as guards go, and he's very quick off the ball. The Browns have long sought stability along the offensive line, and they are banking on Steinbach to be their anchor up front. His toughness and determination stand out.

**6 LOGAN MANKINS / PATRIOTS** .....**3.9** .....u  
Mankins has started all 32 games in his first two seasons, and in that span, he's earned a reputation as one of the AFC's finest guards. Mankins played tackle in college, but his mauling style is an ideal fit inside. Mankins has allowed only five sacks in two seasons, and he's a force in the running game. Some evaluators say Mankins played as well as any guard in 2006.

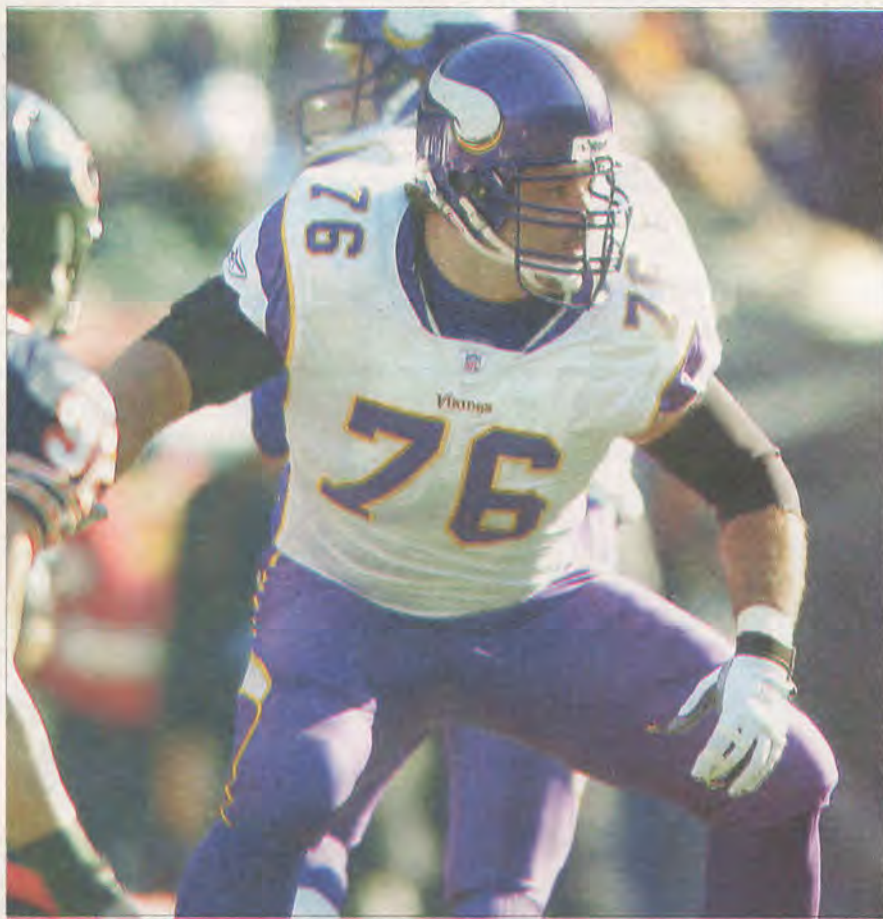
**7 BRIAN WATERS / CHIEFS** .....**3.8** .....d  
Waters is an explosive, powerful guard who has been dominant at times in the running game. Some scouts would like to see him finish plays a little stronger.

**8 LARRY ALLEN / 49ERS** .....**3.8** .....d; x  
Allen, 35, rekindled his career in San Francisco. He made a positive impact on a young Niners offensive line and played very well in his 11 San Francisco starts. Pass protection can pose a problem for him at times, but his strength remains intact. He's still a force as a run blocker; it should be no surprise that Frank Gore gained 5.7 yards per carry running left (Allen's side) last season.

**9 MIKE WAHLE / PANTHERS** .....**3.6** .....c  
A rugged, strong guard, Wahle started 13 games last season for a Carolina offensive line ravaged by injuries. At 30, and with nine seasons under his belt, Wahle's experience is a major asset, as is his natural athleticism.

**10 CHRIS SNEE / GIANTS** .....**3.4** .....u  
One of the more consistent performers on the Giants' offensive line, Snee has started every game the past two seasons. Snee is a tough, technically sound right guard who has improved throughout his three-year NFL career. Stronger in pass protection than he was earlier in his career.

**11 LEONARD DAVIS / COWBOYS** .....**3.35** .....c  
Struck one of the richest deals in free agency with Dallas. Has been a perennial tease to this point and has



DAVID DURECHIK / SPORTSPICS

**Adapting well:** Steve Hutchinson continued to dominate at times in '06 with his new team, Minnesota



yet to reach his potential, and it will be interesting to see how he fares in pressure-packed Dallas. As of presstime, the Cowboys will apparently start Davis at right guard. If he applies himself, he could be one of the very best tackles in the game. The 6-6, 366-pound Davis is strong and athletic, and all he may have needed is a change of scenery after years of losing in Arizona. That said, the Cardinals couldn't understand why the light did not come on for Davis during his six seasons in the Valley. To this point, he has made too many mental mistakes.

12. **DAMIAN WOODY** / LIONS ..... **3.3**

Woody worked diligently in the offseason to get his weight under control, and if he can get back into shape, he'll have every chance to return to prominence as one of the better guards in the game. At his best, he's a punishing force in the run game. If he gets his hands on you, it's over. However, consistency issues have dogged him throughout his career.

13. **DERRICK DOCKERY** / BILLS ..... **3.3** ..U; C

Dockery cashed in as a free agent, inking a lucrative deal with Buffalo. However, some scouts wonder what all the fuss is about. Dockery is certainly a starter-caliber player with the size and strength you like to have at the position. However, he's not as powerful as you would think he is, and his footwork needs work. His competitiveness and instincts draw high marks, however, and he is capable of living up to the hype and starring in his new locale.

14. **CHESTER PITTS** / TEXANS ..... **3.3** ....U

Has settled in at left guard after being thrown into the lineup at left tackle to start his career. Pitts is very athletic as guards go and has ideal size (6-3, 320) for a guard. Could stand to be a little tougher.

15. **CHRIS NAEOLE** / JAGUARS ..... **3.3** ....U

Strong, steady right guard is a force in the run game for Jacksonville. Naeole is durable and tough and still playing at a high level after 10 seasons.

### BEST OF THE REST

16. **RANDY THOMAS** / REDSKINS ..... **3.3**

17. **VINCE MANUWAI** / JAGUARS ..... **3.3**

18. **JAKE SCOTT** / COLTS ..... **3.1**

19. **JUSTIN SMILEY** / 49ERS ..... **3.1**

### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

STACY ANDREWS / BENGALS

JASON BROWN / RAVENS

DARYN COLLEDGE / PACKERS

JAHRI EVANS / SAINTS

BEN HAMILTON / BRONCOS

MAX JEAN-GILLES / EAGLES

DAVIN JOSEPH / BUCCANEERS

DEUCE LUTUI / CARDINALS

TONY MOLL / PACKERS

JASON SPITZ / PACKERS

ANDREW WHITWORTH / BENGALS

## OFFENSIVE TACKLES

RK NAME / TEAM ..... GRADE COM.

1. **WALTER JONES** / SEAHAWKS ..... **4.1** ....d

At age 33, is Jones starting to slow down? Some scouts believe so. Jones surrendered a career-high 10½ sacks last season, according to STATS Inc. Jones still boasts above-average athleticism for the position. He slides and pulls well. At times, he can still dominate, but it's fair to say he's not quite the force he was a few years ago.

2. **JAMMAL BROWN** / SAINTS ..... **4.05** ....U

Brown was a revelation in his first season at left tackle in New Orleans. Brown didn't make many mistakes and helped set the tone for a Saints line that played a major role in the team's great offensive success. Brown plays with good balance and is athletic for his size. He isn't overly explosive, but he's strong and physical and a major factor in the run game. The scary thing is that he's still developing. He plays with his pads a little high at times, but the sky's the limit for Brown. Ascending player.

3. **JONATHAN OGDEN** / RAVENS ..... **4.05**

After a 2005 season that wasn't up to his standards, OGDEN played extremely well in '06. The 6-9, 345-pound OGDEN's long arms give him a major advantage in pass protection. Comes off the ball well and can still be a force in the running game. Very cerebral. Understands the game. Has been known to suggest offensive adjustments to the coaching staff. OGDEN, who will be 33 in



**Smooth transition:** The Saints' Jammal Brown made the switch to left tackle without missing a beat

July, is still playing at a very high level. Just prior to the NFL draft, OGDEN announced he would return for a 12th season.

4. **ORLANDO PACE** / RAMS ..... **3.9** ..x; d

Still one of the top tackles in the game, Pace has retained many of the traits that have made him such a force throughout his career. Pace is big, strong, physical, agile and explosive. Footwork is solid. Pace missed time with a triceps injury last season, but he has been relatively durable throughout his career, playing in all 16 games in 7-of-10 seasons.

5. **CHRIS SAMUELS** / REDSKINS ..... **3.9**

Samuels is in the prime of his career. He has cut down on his mistakes in recent years, and there are few better blind-side protectors in the league. Samuels is strong and physical and plays with good technique. Very athletic. Tough and durable.

6. **BRYANT MCKINNIE** / VIKINGS ..... **3.85** ....U

Has come a long way in the last couple of years after struggling early in his career. McKinnie's sheer size (6-8, 343), long arms and good feet make him tough for edge rushers to beat off the corner. Can also be a force in the running game. Durable and reliable. Is really only entering his fifth full season of pro football after an extended holdout put him way behind in his rookie season.

7. **LEVI JONES** / BENGALS ..... **3.8** ....x

Jones missed 10 games last season with a knee injury, marking the first time in his starting career that he

had been out for an extended time. Tough, reliable, technically sound bookend tackle who has improved every year. Leadership ability cannot be underestimated. Warrior. Is not the bulkiest left tackle but holds his own in pass blocking and the run game.

8. **TARIK GLENN** / COLTS ..... **3.7** ....d

Glenn has started from Day One; his arrival preceded Peyton Manning's by one season. Scouts are quick to point out his bad body, but you can't argue with how he pass-protects. False-start penalties have piled up for him throughout his career. Isn't always technically sound. That said, the Colts can generally count on him holding up his end of the bargain on the left side of the line.

9. **MARVEL SMITH** / STEELERS ..... **3.5** ....C

Smith struggled at times last season in pass protection, allowing 10 sacks. Some say Smith might be best-suited back at right tackle, where he began his career, but he's a serviceable starter on the left side. Smith is athletic and teams with OLG Alan Faneca to create some big running lanes for RB Willie Parker. Pulls well. With a new head coach and OL coach, Smith may be under pressure to pick up his play, but he is capable of doing so.

10. **CHAD CLIFTON** / PACKERS ..... **3.4**

Clifton is put to the test often in Green Bay's pass-happy offense, and he often passes with flying colors. An athletic, smart bookend, Clifton cut down on mistakes last season. Not especially physical, but when he is, he can be tough to beat. A very good fit in Green Bay's



offense. Has missed only one game in the past four seasons.

11. **MARCUS McNEILL** / CHARGERS ..... **3.35** **U**  
McNeill was one of the success stories of a talented class of 2006 rookies. The sky is the limit for this young left tackle. McNeill is very strong in the run game and uses his hands well in pass protection. Pulls well and gets out on screens. Can slide and handle speed rushers off the edge. Stays low. Does need some work picking up blitzing linebackers. Also, defensive ends who had a good, quick move to the inside gave him trouble at times in his first season. Overall, though, he's a player on the rise.

12. **WILLIAM THOMAS** / EAGLES ..... **3.35**  
Thomas bounced back from a tough 2005 season to start all 16 games and reclaim his status as one of the NFC's better left tackles. Has very long arms and strong hands. Good, not great, in the running game. Allowed the fewest sacks he has ever allowed in a full season in '06, his ninth NFL season, giving hope to Eagles observers that Thomas, 32, has something left in the tank.

13. **WILLIE ANDERSON** / BENGALS ..... **3.3**  
Anderson ranks among the game's best right tackles. Anderson is strongest in the running game; he is capable of simply manhandling smaller defensive linemen. The Bengals do some of their best running to his side. Excellent leader. Very tough. Long one of the best right tackles in pass protection. Technically sound. Does not make a lot of mistakes. Conditioning can be a concern at times.

14. **JOHN TAIT** / BEARS ..... **3.3**  
Smart, strong veteran who gets the job done on the left side. Has made a solid transition to left tackle from the right side. Good run blocker. Durability is a slight concern for the 32-year-old Tait, and he struggles on occasion with speed rushers.

15. **RYAN DIEM** / COLTS ..... **3.25**  
The Colts' triumph in Super Bowl XLI could go a long way in helping Diem get his due. Very good run blocker. Has improved in pass protection. Keeps his mistakes and penalties to a minimum.

16. **FLOZELL ADAMS** / COWBOYS ..... **3.2** ..... **X**  
A massive (6-7, 340) left tackle, Adams has decent quickness for a man his size. Can fight fire with fire when it comes to defensive ends trying to match his power. Adams' problem is handling smaller, quicker pass rushers. Penalties are a concern. At age 32, his best football is probably behind him. Likely will be replaced eventually by Cowboys free-agent acquisition Leonard Davis.

17. **JONAS JENNINGS** / 49ERS ..... **3.1**  
League observers say Jennings hasn't lived up to the big contract he received from San Francisco. Jennings gets off the ball well and has nice instincts for the position. Can get down the field on screens. The knocks on Jennings are that he's a little stiff in the upper body. Edge speed can be tough for him to handle. Technique isn't sharp. Plays with his pads too high.

18. **JORDAN GROSS** / PANTHERS ..... **3.0** ..... **X; U**  
Gross has many of the attributes you'd like in a tackle. He's athletic and intelligent and can play on both sides. However, he's not a perfect fit for either side. He's still developing, but for now, he's a notch below the best tackles. Still has some upside. Probably best-suited at right tackle.

19. **LUKE PETITGOUT** / BUCCANEERS ..... **3.0** ..... **X**  
The Giants released Petitgout in February, and some evaluators say he's overrated and on the downside of his career. However, he's good in pass protection, and the move to Tampa Bay, where he'll work with OL coach Bill Muir, could help him. Has some injury concerns.

20. **JASON PETERS** / BILLS ..... **3.0**  
Peters, a converted tight end, fared well when the Bills installed him at left tackle, and he appears to have a bright future at the position. Strong in the run game and holds his own in pass protection. Figures to cut down on mistakes as he gains experience. The buzz is growing about this player.

#### BEST OF THE REST

21. **JEFF BACKUS** / LIONS ..... **2.95**  
22. **JON JANSEN** / REDSKINS ..... **2.9** ..... **D**  
23. **MARK TAUSCHER** / PACKERS ..... **2.9**  
24. **MATT LEPSIS** / BRONCOS ..... **2.9**  
25. **JON RUNYAN** / EAGLES ..... **2.9**  
26. **MATT LIGHT** / PATRIOTS ..... **2.85**

27. **KAREEM MCKENZIE** / GIANTS ..... **2.8**  
28. **TONY PASHOS** / JAGUARS ..... **2.8**  
29. **MAX STARKS** / STEELERS ..... **2.7**  
30. **KEVIN SHAFFER** / BROWNS ..... **2.7**  
31. **DAMION MCINTOSH** / CHIEFS ..... **2.7**

#### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

D'BRICKASHAW FERGUSON / JETS  
ROBERT GALLERY / RAIDERS  
WINSTON JUSTICE / EAGLES  
JON STINCHCOMB / SAINTS  
ADAM TERRY / RAVENS  
REGGIE WELLS / CARDINALS

#### DEFENSIVE ENDS

RK NAME / TEAM	GRADE	COM.
1. <b>JULIUS PEPPERS</b> / PANTHERS	<b>4.45</b>	
Peppers is the total package. Has ideal size (6-7, 283) and 4.6 speed. Changes direction well. Has excellent burst. His wingspan also presents major problems for offensive tackles. Can get sacks in bunches. At age 27, he may only be reaching his vast potential, and if he turns up his intensity a notch, we could be in store for something special.		
2. <b>JASON TAYLOR</b> / DOLPHINS	<b>4.4</b>	
Won NFL Defensive MVP honors in 2006 on a below-.500 team and beat out Broncos CB Champ Bailey and Chargers OLB Shawn Merriman in the process. Taylor's		

motor never stops running. Has excellent initial quickness. Long arms are also an asset. Very good athlete for the position. Strong vs. the run. Will be 33 in September but keeps himself in great shape. Has not missed a game since 1999.

3. **DWIGHT FREENEY** / COLTS ..... **4.35**  
Freney has the most explosive first step in the league. Can change the momentum of a game with his speed. Spin move can be devastating. Production was down last season, but there is no discounting his impact on games, especially in the RCA Dome.

4. **RICHARD SEYMOUR** / PATRIOTS ..... **4.25**  
The 6-6, 310-pound Seymour is excellent vs. the run. He reads and reacts well. Not a top-notch pass rusher, but has his moments. Strong and agile enough to be a real factor when he moves inside. Versatile, intelligent and plays hard all the time.

5. **MICHAEL STRAHAN** / GIANTS ..... **4.0** ..... **X**  
Strahan is nearing the end of a long, distinguished career. He plays at 255 pounds and has kept his quickness, but he also holds his own in run defense. Strong in pursuit and racks up tackles as defensive ends go. However, he's missed major stretches of two of the past three seasons — a foot injury hindered him last season — and his ability to last 16 games is in question. Will be motivated to bounce back after a forgettable '06 campaign.

6. **LUIS CASTILLO** / CHARGERS ..... **3.9**  
In addition to having excellent strength, Castillo is quick and athletic for a man of his size (6-3, 290). He is a force vs. the run. As 3-4 ends go, you aren't going to



**Total package:** Julius Peppers possesses all of the qualities that you'd want in a defensive end



find many better than Castillo. A very smart and determined player, Castillo is on the cusp of stardom.

# 7. JARED ALLEN / CHIEFS .....3.9

Allen uses quickness to terrorize left tackles. Also, scouts note that he's quite strong for a player his size. Doesn't quit on the play and makes plays in pursuit. Not especially strong vs. the run, and he needs to play with better leverage. Stood out in 2006 to coaches and scouts alike.

# 8. JOHN ABRAHAM / FALCONS .....3.9 ...X

Abraham's first season in Atlanta was a disappointment because of a groin injury. In his Falcons regular-season debut, Abraham notched five tackles and two sacks and forced two fumbles. If he returns to health, Abraham's speed will be something to behold on the Georgia Dome's artificial surface. Has the ability to change games. Effort has been questioned in the past, but comes into this season with something to prove.

# 9. DERRICK BURGESS / RAIDERS .....3.75

Burgess' career has taken off since he signed with Oakland. Burgess has notched 27 sacks in two seasons and has not missed a game in his Raiders career after enduring an injury-plagued stint with the Eagles. Burgess is powerful and technically sound. At 6-foot-2, Burgess generally plays with good leverage. Has earned the respect of OL coaches around the league.

# 10. WILL SMITH / SAINTS .....3.7

The 6-3, 282-pound Smith continues to improve. He is quick off the ball and also boasts enough strength for the DRE position. Plays well vs. NFC South competition. Sack total has increased in each of his first three seasons in the pros.

# 11. JUSTIN SMITH / BENGALS .....3.7

Smith has a non-stop motor. Was more active than ever in 2006. Excellent in pursuit. Solid vs. the run. Has never notched double-digit sacks but is knocking on the door.

# 12. TY WARREN / PATRIOTS .....3.7

Unsung member of Patriots' defensive line had his strongest season in 2006. In fact, some Patriots observers believe he should have made the Pro Bowl. Strong vs. the run, and he was also a pass-rushing force last season.

# 13. ROBERT MATHIS / COLTS .....3.65

Quietly notched more sacks than Dwight Freeney did a season ago (9½ vs. 5½). Like Freeney, speed is Mathis' greatest asset; he's going to give many right tackles considerable problems, especially if the Colts are ahead and opponents have to throw the ball. At 245 pounds, the Colts work to keep him fresh.

# 14. CHARLES GRANT / SAINTS .....3.55

Powerful defensive left end who complements DRE Will Smith well. Strong and explosive, Grant holds his own at the point of attack. After receiving the franchise tag this offseason, Grant is poised to draw plenty of attention in unrestricted free agency in 2008.

# 15. LEONARD LITTLE / RAMS .....3.5

The 6-3, 263-pound Little has kept himself in good condition. At age 32, he's still a terror coming off the edge. Can get sacks in bunches.

# 16. JEVON KEARSE / EAGLES .....3.45 X;C

Kearse's career is at a crossroads because of injury and a decline in production. He missed almost all of last season with a knee injury, and though he's expected to be ready for Week One, there are questions as to whether he's the same player he was a few years ago. Has not lived up to expectations in Philadelphia.

# 17. AARON SMITH / STEELERS .....3.4

Smith has long been one of the league's top 3-4 defensive ends. Anchors vs. the run. Uses his hands well. Could play left end in a 4-3 scheme if the Steelers decide to employ that formation at some point. Still going strong after years of doing the dirty work up front.

# 18. AARON SCHOBEL / BILLS .....3.4

The best pass rusher you've never heard of. Excellent motor. Crafty. Has good strength and quickness. Notched a career-high 14 sacks last season, and almost half came against divisional competition. Underrated.

# 19. AARON KAMPMAN / PACKERS .....3.4

Kampman followed a solid 2005 campaign with a very productive '06 season. Gaudy sack total (15½) is a reflection of his motor. Gets off the ball well and has surprised quite a few right tackles in his day. What's more, he defends the run well, too. Makes plays in pursuit. Plays with good leverage. May not have the upside of



others on this list, but he has put himself in a position to thrive in the years to come.

# 20. KYLE VANDEN BOSCH / TITANS .....3.35

Emerged as a starter-caliber defensive end for the Titans' defense. Intelligent and athletic, Vanden Bosch always gives great effort. Can struggle against size.

## BEST OF THE REST

# 21. SIMEON RICE / BUCCANEERS .....3.3 X;C

# 22. OSI UMENYIORA / GIANTS .....3.25 U

# 23. ALEX BROWN / BEARS .....3.2

# 24. TAMBA HALI / CHIEFS .....3.2 ...U

# 25. DARREN HOWARD / EAGLES .....3.15

# 26. CULLEN JENKINS / PACKERS .....3.1

# 27. SHAUN ELLIS / JETS .....3.1

# 28. ADEWALE OGUNLEYE / BEARS .....3.1

# 29. BOBBY MCCRAY / JAGUARS .....3.0

# 30. PATRICK KERNEY / SEAHAWKS .....3.0

# 31. DEWAYNE WHITE / LIONS .....3.0

## TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

VICTOR ADEYANJU / RAMS

MARK ANDERSON / BEARS

BARRY COFIELD / GIANTS

TRENT COLE / EAGLES

ELVIS DUMERIL / BRONCOS

MATHIAS KIWANUKA / GIANTS

MARCUS SPEARS / COWBOYS

MARIO WILLIAMS / TEXANS

## NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY

MIKE RUCKER / PANTHERS

## DEFENSIVE TACKLES

RK NAME / TEAM GRADE COM.

# 1. KEVIN WILLIAMS / VIKINGS .....4.2

As disruptive a defensive tackle as there is in the league, Williams teamed with Pat Williams to anchor a Minnesota defensive line that was downright stingy vs. the run. Williams' quick hands allow him to beat blockers to the punch and shed. Williams can collapse the pocket and provide quite the interior pass-rushing presence, too. At a time when the NFL is stacked with disruptive interior defensive linemen, Williams may

**Tackle tandem:** Pat (94) and Kevin Williams give the Vikings a very strong interior D-line

take the cake.

# 2. JAMAL WILLIAMS / CHARGERS .....4.2

Prototypical 3-4 nose tackle. Was as productive as he has ever been in 2006, notching a career-high 69 tackles. Ties up blockers and allows Chargers' talented linebackers to run free, and collapses the pocket in passing situations. Quick off the ball and very strong at the point of attack, Williams does his job extremely well.

# 3. CASEY HAMPTON / STEELERS .....4.1

The key to the Steelers' run-stuffing efforts, Hampton is as tough as they come vs. the run. His strong lower body is a major asset. Quick off the ball. Uses his hands extremely well. Dominates for stretches, as he did in Pittsburgh's comeback win vs. Cleveland last season. Tough and dependable, Hampton is one of the very best nose tackles.

# 4. TONNIE HARRIS / BEARS .....4.05 U;X

Graded out like a Pro Bowl player last season before suffering a season-ending hamstring injury in December. Scouts say Harris has all the tools you look for in a defensive tackle. He will dominate lesser competition with his speed and strength. What's more, he's technically sound. Plays with excellent leverage and uses his hands well. The Bears' defense just wasn't the same without him.

# 5. VINCE WILFORK / PATRIOTS .....4.0 ...U

A massive run stuffer, Wilfork's play picked up in 2006. He provides a massive presence in the middle of the line. Was disruptive and dominant before injuring his ankle toward the end of the regular season. Not a major threat to get to the quarterback but can collapse the pocket. Quickness off the ball is an asset, and he holds his own vs. top competition. Best football appears to be ahead of him.

# 6. KRIS JENKINS / PANTHERS .....4.0 ...U;X

Injuries cut short Jenkins' 2004 and '05 seasons, but he played in all 16 games in '06 and looked, at times, like the player who had struck fear in the hearts of OL coaches earlier in his career. At his best, he can be unblockable, with outstanding athleticism and power. As defensive tackles go, he's one of the better pass rushers around, boasting an ability to collapse the pocket. A tough matchup for any interior lineman. Will only be 28 at the start of this season, so if he can avoid injuries,



Jenkins should have several strong years left. However, questions linger about his effort.

**7. TREVOR PRYCE / RAVENS .....3.85** ..d  
Pryce can also play end, but he gets most of his snaps inside at tackle. A strong, quick, savvy pro who benefited greatly from the move to Baltimore. Defensive coordinator Rex Ryan has a knack for using his personnel correctly, and when he allowed Pryce to focus his efforts on collapsing the pocket, Pryce returned to Pro Bowl form.

**8. JOHN HENDERSON / JAGUARS .....3.8**  
The 6-7, 325-pound Henderson's sheer size can give interior linemen fits. Can push the pocket and provide some pass-rushing ability. Boasts very good strength and athleticism. Moves well. Has not missed a game in five NFL seasons. The knocks on Henderson are that he plays too high, which can allow shorter, inferior offensive linemen to get the best of him sometimes. Effort has been questioned.

**9. PAT WILLIAMS / VIKINGS .....3.8** ..d  
Massive run stuffer helped to make running against the Vikings so difficult. Tough to move at the point of attack. Hands are quick, and once he gets them on an opponent, it's hard to get him disengaged. On passing plays, has the ability to provide gut pressure. Takes some plays off, and weight can be a problem.

**10. SHAUN ROGERS / LIONS .....3.8** ..c; x  
Comes off a tough 2006 season, marked by a four-game suspension for violating the league's policy on steroids and related substances and a season-ending knee injury. Rogers has said the positive test was a result of a dietary supplement. At his best, Rogers is as tough a matchup for interior offensive linemen as there is in the league. He's tough to block one-on-one, and he can dominate for stretches. Very athletic for a man listed at 6-foot-4, 345 pounds. Strong vs. the run. Can collapse the pocket and has good pass-rush ability. Yet, scouts say Rogers doesn't always play to his ability. His weight and conditioning have also come into question. At age 28, with so much natural ability, he can turn things around quickly.

**11. ROD COLEMAN / FALCONS .....3.6** ..c; x  
Coleman is one of the NFL's top pass-rushing tackles. As Atlanta's "under" tackle, he's quick off the ball and boasts excellent power. Scouts make note of the 6-2, 285-pound Coleman's strong upper body and his tenacity and competitiveness. Has a non-stop motor. Has some durability issues, and now he could miss the start

of the regular season after rupturing his right quadriceps in April.

**12. MARCUS STROUD / JAGUARS .....3.6** ....x  
Stroud is looking to bounce back after playing in only 11 games in 2006 because of an ankle injury. However, his play picked up considerably after returning to the lineup in November, and he is in the prime of his career. Stroud is very strong at the point of attack. When he stays low, he's tough to deal with. Stroud also has some pass-rush ability.

**13. WARREN SAPP / RAIDERS .....3.6** ....d  
Sapp, 34, remains a starter-caliber player at a physically demanding position. He's very smart and a good leader. He still has a decent burst at the snap and has good quickness. He uses his hands very well. However, Sapp doesn't have the stamina he used to have, and he can't get the consistent push he used to get up the middle. At this stage, his range is between the tackles.

**14. CORY REDDING / LIONS .....3.6** ....u  
Ascending player. Moved to "under" tackle last season from defensive left end and took off, notching eight sacks in 11 games while filling in for Shaun Cody. Strong and quick off the ball. Very good motor. Hasn't missed a game in the past three seasons. Will be pressured to prove strong 2006 season wasn't a fluke — he had been solid, if unspectacular, in three previous seasons. That said, he appears to be the disruptive, athletic defensive tackle Lions head coach Rod Marinelli was looking for.

**15. ALBERT HAYNESWORTH / TITANS .....3.5** ....c  
When he's focused, Haynesworth can be a force in the middle for Tennessee. However, he is not without his baggage. Five-game suspension last year for stomping Cowboys C Andre Gurode raised questions about his character. The 6-6, 320-pound Haynesworth is remarkably athletic for his size and has stretches where he looks like a Pro Bowl performer. He is still relatively young (26); with his talent, he will get every opportunity to figure things out. A player to watch in 2007.

**16. CORNELIUS GRIFFIN / REDSKINS .....3.35**  
Has not quite replicated 2004 form, but Griffin is a formidable opponent nonetheless. He has the ability to be explosive and has good quickness for the position. That said, evaluators would like to see him make more plays in pursuit, and he plays with his pads too high at times.

**17. DEWAYNE ROBERTSON / JETS .....3.3** ....u  
Athleticism is Robertson's greatest asset. Had a fine

season in Bob Sutton's defense in 2006 and was very active. Quick off the ball, Robertson can be quite disruptive — he had seven games with five tackles or more last season — and he is poised to take off in his fifth NFL season.

**18. KELLY GREGG / RAVENS .....3.3**  
The 6-foot, 310-pound Gregg has fashioned a long NFL career for himself because of his motor, technique and production. Small stature helps him play with leverage, and he has overcome his lack of height. Makes plenty of hustle plays. Works hard. Fits in seamlessly in Ravens' scheme. Defensive coordinator Rex Ryan has coached Gregg for six years, knows his strengths and limitations, and uses him correctly. A valuable, if still somewhat unrecognized, part of Ravens' top-ranked defense. Has respect of opponents.

**19. DARNELL DOCKETT / CARDINALS .....3.2** ....u  
Dockett is very talented. The question is whether he can sustain the sort of effort it takes to be special. At his best, he's very disruptive, but there are stretches when he's not as much of a factor as he should be.

**20. TOMMY KELLY / RAIDERS .....3.1**  
Kelly is a player on the rise. He's powerful and plays with good technique. Can play both DT spots, and he can also slide out to defensive end. Evaluators say he could be a good 3-4 end, too. Very strong.

### BEST OF THE REST

- 21. VONNIE HOLLIDAY / DOLPHINS .....3.0** ....d  
**22. ANTHONY MCFARLAND / COLTS .....3.0**  
**23. La'ROI GLOVER / RAMS .....3.0** ....d  
**24. HOLLIS THOMAS / SAINTS .....2.9** ....d

### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

BRODRICK BUNKLEY / EAGLES  
TANK JOHNSON / BEARS  
DAMIONE LEWIS / PANTHERS  
JOHN MCCARGO / BILLS  
HALOTI NGATA / RAVENS  
MIKE PATTERSON / EAGLES  
DOMATA PEKO / BENGALS

## INSIDE LINEBACKERS

RK NAME / TEAM GRADE COM.

**1. BRIAN URLACHER / BEARS .....4.3**  
Urlacher has the size of an old-time linebacker with 21st century speed. One of the game's very best linebackers in pass coverage. Will lead Bears to improbable win at Arizona last season with one of the finest performances a defender had all season. Capable of taking over games. Excellent speed. Sheds blockers well. Top competitor.

**2. AL WILSON / FREE AGENT .....4.0** x; d; c  
At age 30, Wilson's career is at a crossroads. The 6-foot, 240-pound Wilson is fast and athletic and can deliver a heavy blow. Possesses excellent leadership skills and will set a tone for the defense. Plays a little stiff. Has some physical concerns — failed the Giants' physical, reportedly because of neck and back issues, when Broncos tried to engineer an offseason trade. Then, Denver cut the standout linebacker in April.

**3. JONATHAN VILMA / JETS .....3.8** ....u  
Vilma's quick first step allows him to shoot gaps and get into the backfield. Very intelligent and a strong pre-snap reader. He is too quick for guards and centers to come out and block; he'll usually slip past them. Could be even more of a factor in his second season of playing in Bob Sutton's defense.

**4. ZACH THOMAS / DOLPHINS .....3.8** ....d  
Perhaps lost in Jason Taylor's Defensive MVP season was that Thomas was playing at a high level at age 33. Thomas notched a career-high 165 tackles and defended nine passes. Excellent instincts. Strong leader. Thomas has kept himself in shape, and it shows.

**5. LONDON FLETCHER / REDSKINS .....3.75** ..d  
Undersized but sturdy, Fletcher has thrived because of his instincts. Tough and strong enough to take on interior linemen and win. Signed a lucrative free-agent deal with the Redskins. At age 32, some wonder why Washington would show so much interest, but this is an

**Mr. Quick:** Jonathan Vilma's quick first step and intelligence make him a premier linebacker





incredibly durable football player. He has never missed a game. Will be expected to provide leadership for a Redskins defense trying to bounce back after struggling in 2006. The type of player you want on the field and in the locker room.

**6. KEITH BROOKING / FALCONS.....3.7**

With the release of MLB Ed Hartwell, Brooking is poised to move inside from the weak-side LB spot he played in 2006. Brooking's combination of size and speed is further bolstered by instincts sharpened by years of experience. Tough, durable and versatile. Won't quit on the play.

**7. WILL WITHERSPOON / RAMS.....3.7**

Witherspoon fared well in his first season playing middle linebacker in St. Louis. He is such a good fit in Jim Haslett's scheme and on the artificial turf of the Edward Jones Dome. Witherspoon boasts excellent speed from sideline to sideline and can also be a major factor on the blitz. On the small side (6-1, 234), so he must be kept clean to be effective.

**8. RAY LEWIS / RAVENS.....3.6**

Lewis, 32, has started to wear down in recent years, but he enjoyed something of bounce-back season in 2006 playing for the top-ranked Ravens defense. Influence and importance have waned a little, but Lewis can still be productive when he's allowed to run to the ball. Notched a career-high five sacks last season.

**9. BART SCOTT / RAVENS.....3.55**

Stepped into a starting role during the 2005 season and has been making plays ever since. Instinctive and athletic. May play outside linebacker more often this season as the Ravens try to replace Adalius Thomas. Can be deployed creatively. Dangerous on the blitz and has even shown he has the ability to put his hand down and rush the passer.

**10. DARYL SMITH / JAGUARS.....3.55**

The Jaguars are expected to keep Smith in the middle. He moved inside after Mike Peterson suffered a season-ending injury in 2006, and he was a revelation. Personnel men say Smith is best in the middle, where he can roam from tackle to tackle and use his strength and short-area quickness to his advantage. He is not as good in space.

**11. LOFA TATUPU / SEAHAWKS.....3.5**

One of the league's swifter linebackers, Tatupu would not be a fit in every system because of his 6-foot, 238-pound frame. However, he is just what the Seahawks are looking for and is an invaluable part of the defense. After a slow start last season, his play really picked up.

**12. DeMECO RYANS / TEXANS.....3.5**

Very, very productive as a rookie, when he stepped in at middle linebacker and was the top playmaker for a Houston defense that improved down the stretch. Ryans can run from sideline to sideline and is a sure tackler. Scouts were struck with how well he fared in pass coverage for a rookie. Got more and more comfortable with calling the defensive signals as his first year progressed.

**13. KIRK MORRISON / RAIDERS.....3.35**

Morrison is not the most talented LB on this list, but he is smart, instinctive and quick. Knows how to play with leverage. Durable. A player on the rise.

**14. ANTONIO PIERCE / GIANTS.....3.3**

Pierce has been worth every penny the Giants paid him to lure him from Washington in the 2005 offseason. Pierce is a sure tackler and has good quickness for the position. He is excellent in pass coverage.

**15. NICK BARNETT / PACKERS.....3.3**

Athletic, productive middle backer signed a contract extension in the offseason and is one of the major cogs in a defense on the rise.

**BEST OF THE REST**

**16. JEREMIAH TROTTER / EAGLES.....3.25**

**17. MIKE PETERSON / JAGUARS.....3.25**

**18. GARY BRACKETT / COLTS.....3.2**

**19. JAMES FARRIOR / STEELERS.....3.0**

**20. NAPOLEON HARRIS / CHIEFS.....3.0**

**TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS**

AHMAD BROOKS / BENGALS

STEPHEN COOPER / CHARGERS

OMAR GAITHER / EAGLES

ABDUL HODGE / PACKERS

D'QWELL JACKSON / BROWNS

BRADIE JAMES / COWBOYS

FREDDIE KEIAHO / COLTS



ROB HOLT / SPORTSPICS

**One of a kind: Shawne Merriman dominates his opponents, and he is only getting started**

MATT MCCOY / EAGLES  
LEON WILLIAMS / BROWNS

**NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY**

ED HARTWELL / FREE AGENT  
DAN MORGAN / PANTHERS  
SHELTON QUARLES / BUCCANEERS

**OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS**

RK NAME / TEAM GRADE COM.

**1. SHAWNE MERRIMAN / CHARGERS.....4.15**

The word "unblockable" gets thrown around quite a bit with the 6-4, 272-pound Merriman, who was dominant in 2006. He notched 17 sacks in 12 games, with half of those coming in December. Merriman has an explosive first step and possesses great strength. However, critics say he gets most of his production against much weaker opposition, such as tight ends. Also, a four-game steroids suspension put him under scrutiny. Nevertheless, there isn't a 3-4 outside linebacker like him.

**2. JULIAN PETERSON / SEAHAWKS.....4.1**

Seahawks defensive coordinator John Marshall is the envy of his peers. Thirty-one other defensive coordinators would love to have the uniquely talented Peterson in the fold. Peterson can do it all. He's strong vs. the run,

solid in coverage and he can put his hand down and rush the passer. He is truly a dynamic player.

**3. DeMARCUS WARE / COWBOYS.....3.9**

Ware is just about everything you want in a 3-4 edge rusher. Boasts excellent explosiveness. Sheds blockers well. Improved in just about every area last year and graded out like a blue-chip player in scouts' minds.

**4. LANCE BRIGGS / BEARS.....3.9**

Briggs is poised to cash in after the 2007 season. Teams who have studied Briggs believe he can play either the weak or strong side. Briggs roams the weak side for the Bears, and he was every bit as important to the Chicago defense as MLB Brian Urlacher was in 2006. Has the strength to get off blockers and the speed to run down ballcarriers. He may still be a little underrated, even after Chicago's appearance in Super Bowl XLI.

**5. ADALIUS THOMAS / PATRIOTS.....3.8**

As expected, Thomas signed a lucrative deal in free agency, landing in New England. If any team is as well-suited to work with Thomas as Baltimore was, it's the Patriots. Thomas did a little bit of everything for the Ravens' defense; defensive coordinator Rex Ryan even lined him up in the secondary in certain packages. Scouts say using Thomas in various roles is the best way to use his uncommon strength and speed. He doesn't do anything great, but he does many things well,



and his professional approach to the game will make him a hit with the Patriots.

#### 6. KEITH BULLUCK / TITANS .....3.8

Productive, steady and athletic, Bulluck is the centerpiece of a young, improving Tennessee defense. Bulluck has notched at least 99 solo tackles in each of the past five seasons. Bulluck, 30, is in the prime of his career. He's always reliable, and he has the ability to change games. Talented, smart, instinctive. Freelances often. Does not like to take on blocks. Very instinctive in the passing game. Can be deadly when he sees a quarterback for a second time.

#### 7. DERRICK JOHNSON / CHIEFS .....3.7

Johnson is well-suited for the weak side. He's big and athletic and will rack up the tackles when he can simply run to the ball. Strong in pass coverage. The knock on Johnson: He's not as physical as some scouts would like. He would rather slip blockers than engage them.

#### 8. TERRELL SUGGS / RAVENS .....3.7

Suggs, who will be 25 in October, is a pass-rushing terror. Has one of the league's quickest first steps and can provide major problems for tackles who don't slide well. What's more, his excellent speed makes him dangerous when the quarterback is flushed out of the pocket. Best at putting his hand on the ground and going after the quarterback, but he's getting better at the finer points of being an outside linebacker.

#### 9. D.J. WILLIAMS / BRONCOS .....3.6

Not a true strong-side linebacker, though he has more than enough athleticism to cover tight ends. Does not want to be that physical. Has good strength and runs very well. Would fit in well in the middle or on the weak side. Very good in space. Could really take off if role becomes more suited to his strengths.

#### 10. SHAUN PHILLIPS / CHARGERS .....3.5

Phillips had a breakout 2006 season in his first campaign as a full-time starter at outside linebacker. The 6-3, 262-pound Phillips has excellent lower-body strength and good speed. Capable of being productive even when Shawne Merriman is not in the lineup. A player on the rise.

#### 11. DONNIE EDWARDS / CHIEFS .....3.45

Edwards, 34, can still run all day and should be a good fit in Gunther Cunningham's defense. Edwards is as good as it gets in pass coverage, and he has landed in the right scheme for his talents.

#### 12. IAN GOLD / BRONCOS .....3.3

Gold, Denver's weak-side linebacker, is best in space. Still runs well but isn't quite as fast as he once was. Not overly physical. He's on the light side and can be run at. Good in pass coverage.

#### 13. JOEY PORTER / DOLPHINS .....3.3

Released by the Steelers, Porter got a soft landing in Miami. At his best, Porter is a disruptive edge rusher who can dominate inferior offensive tackles. He can also drop into coverage and hold his own vs. the pass. However, some say Porter's play fell off markedly after a strong Week One performance vs. current employer Miami, and he comes into this season with something to prove. Porter has some knee concerns in his past. Overall, it's hard to escape the feeling that his career is at a crossroads.

#### 14. MARCUS WASHINGTON / REDSKINS .....3.3

Washington is one of the league's top strong-side linebackers. This former defensive end is more than capable of getting to the quarterback. An intelligent, hustling player who's strong enough to win the battle with tight ends and make an impact in run defense. Missed time with a knee injury a season ago.

#### 15. DERRICK BROOKS / BUCCANEERS .....3.3

Brooks is getting long in the tooth (34), and he no longer ranks among the elite at his position, but he is still held in high regard. Made plays strictly on athleticism early in his career but now is a savvy, old pro. However, he missed a few more tackles than usual last season.

### BEST OF THE REST

#### 16. ERNIE SIMS / LIONS .....3.3

#### 17. A.J. HAWK / PACKERS .....3.3

#### 18. KARLOS DANSBY / CARDINALS .....3.3

#### 19. CATO JUNE / BUCCANEERS .....3.2

#### 20. DAVID THORNTON / TITANS .....3.15

#### 21. CLARK HAGGANS / STEELERS .....3.15

#### 22. TAKEO SPIKES / EAGLES .....3.1

### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

MICHAEL BOLEY / FALCONS  
ANGELO CROWELL / BILLS  
THOMAS DAVIS / PANTHERS  
SCOTT FUJITA / SAINTS  
MARQUES HARRIS / CHARGERS  
LEROY HILL / SEAHAWKS  
THOMAS HOWARD / RAIDERS  
CLINT INGRAM / JAGUARS  
MANNY LAWSON / 49ERS  
BRYAN THOMAS / JETS  
DeMORRIO WILLIAMS / FALCONS  
KAMERION WIMBLEY / BROWNS

### PAST THEIR PRIME

WILLIE MCGINEST / BROWNS  
DHANI JONES / EAGLES

### NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY

LaVAR ARRINGTON / FREE AGENT  
DAVID POLLACK / BENGALS

## CORNERBACKS

RK NAME / TEAM GRADE COM.

#### 1. CHAMP BAILEY / BRONCOS .....4.5

Bailey plays the ball like a wide receiver. The comparisons to Deion Sanders come more and more often from evaluators. Bailey is adept at baiting quarterbacks, closing quickly and making the play. In the prime of his career, Bailey towers over his peers at cornerback.

#### 2. TERENCE NEWMAN / COWBOYS .....4.05

Newman has developed into arguably the NFC's best cornerback. Doesn't get beat often and is universally regarded as a top man-to-man corner. Very good ball



As good as it gets: Broncos CB Champ Bailey's cover skills are incomparable in today's NFL.

skills and athleticism. Will be 29 in September, but he's only entering his fifth season.

#### 3. NATE CLEMENTS / 49ERS .....3.95

The 49ers gave Clements \$22 million in guaranteed money to be the lockdown cornerback the team has needed. In the minds of some scouts, only Bailey is clearly better than Clements, who has excellent athleticism, ball skills and instincts. He played to his potential last season, but that wasn't the case in '05, when he was beaten far more often than a player with his talent should have been.

#### 4. DeANGELO HALL / FALCONS .....3.85

Has a staggering amount of talent. Very good playing speed. Explosive. Fluid. Isn't lacking for confidence. Indeed, Hall could be the complete package, but he must be more consistent.

#### 5. RASHEAN MATHIS / JAGUARS .....3.7

Mathis is very quick out of his backpedal and possesses fine ball skills. A challenging matchup for the vast majority of receivers because of his 6-1, 200-pound frame and his athleticism. Physical. Doesn't drop many interception opportunities.

#### 6. CHRIS McALISTER / RAVENS .....3.7

McAlister had a fine 2006 season, proving he wasn't done just yet after an '05 season that tested the Ravens' patience. McAlister thrives in physical, tight coverage. Receivers with deep speed can give him trouble, but the Ravens' pass rush takes some of that risk out of the equation. Marches to the beat of his own drummer, but the Ravens don't mind as long as he puts in his work.

#### 7. ASANTE SAMUEL / PATRIOTS .....3.6

Samuel's calling card: incredible ball skills. He intercepted 10 passes in 2006 and defended 14 others. Has the burst needed to jump routes and is crafty enough to bait the quarterback. He's on the small side (5-10, 185) and is susceptible to getting banged up.

#### 8. RONDE BARBER / BUCCANEERS .....3.55

Is Barber on the downside of his career? Yes. Can you put together this list without him? No way. Barber would not fit every system — he's best in zone coverage. That's what he does. But he does it as well as anyone. Has excellent instincts. Plays the ball well. Tackles well. Barber could provide just the influence Phillip Buchanon needs to turn his career around.

#### 9. NNAMDI ASOMUGHA / RAIDERS .....3.5

On a Raiders team that NFL historians will remember most for its futility, Asomugha made a name for himself. The 6-2, 210-pound Asomugha's length and athletic ability pose matchup problems for opponents. He plays the ball well. Asomugha's approach to the game has improved, and it has been reflected in his play. An ascending player.

#### 10. ANTOINE WINFIELD / VIKINGS .....3.45

You know what you're going to get from Winfield from game to game. He is tough, intelligent and quick. He thrives in zone coverage. Figures to again get plenty of action at left cornerback, as Minnesota's supertough run defense forces teams to take to the air.

#### 11. LITO SHEPPARD / EAGLES .....3.4

Sheppard's ball skills were on full display last season (six picks in 13 games). His game is speed and quickness, not physicality. Is very fluid and changes direction well. Ability to hold up over a 16-game season could be called into question; he has missed playing time in each of the past three seasons. At age 26, and with only 66 regular-season games under his belt, Sheppard still has room to improve.

#### 12. DRÉ BLY / BRONCOS .....3.4

Bly did not fit in Detroit's cover-2 scheme. In Denver, he'll draw plenty of attention from quarterbacks trying to avoid Champ Bailey. Bly has the ability to make those quarterbacks pay dearly. Instinctive and quick, Bly could very well surpass his career high of six interceptions if everything breaks correctly.

#### 13. QUENTIN JAMMER / CHARGERS .....3.3

The light has started to come on for Jammer. Best in press coverage, which allows him to use his size (6-0, 204) to his advantage.

#### 14. DUNTA ROBINSON / TEXANS .....3.3

Robinson had a spectacular rookie season in 2004, but he hasn't built on that campaign as some had expected. Consistency can be an issue. Robinson is fast and physical and doesn't mind coming up vs. the run. Bigger receivers can pose problems for him.

#### 15. CHARLES WOODSON / PACKERS .....3.15

Woodson played well in his first season in Green Bay. He isn't the physical marvel he was earlier in his





**Dangerous:** Arizona's Adrian Wilson uses athleticism and instincts to make an impact as a blitzer

career, and the Packers gave him safety help, but his natural talent is still apparent. Intercepted a career-high eight passes and played in all 16 games. With Woodson, CB Al Harris and FS Nick Collins roaming the defensive backfield, the Packers can be tough to throw on.

#### BEST OF THE REST

16. <b>SHAWN SPRINGS</b> / REDSKINS	3.1	...x; c
17. <b>KEN LUCAS</b> / PANTHERS	3.1	...x
18. <b>TY LAW</b> / CHIEFS	3.1	...d
19. <b>AL HARRIS</b> / PACKERS	3.05	
20. <b>MARCUS TRUFANT</b> / SEAHAWKS	3.0	...u
21. <b>CHARLES TILLMAN</b> / BEARS	3.0	
22. <b>CARLOS ROGERS</b> / REDSKINS	3.0	...u
23. <b>PATRICK SURTAIN</b> / CHIEFS	3.0	...d
24. <b>RICHARD MARSHALL</b> / PANTHERS	2.95	...u
25. <b>MIKE MCKENZIE</b> / SAINTS	2.95	
26. <b>SHELDON BROWN</b> / EAGLES	2.95	

#### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

LEIGH BODDEN / BROWNS  
CEDRIC GRIFFIN / VIKINGS  
TYE HILL / RAMS  
KELLY JENNINGS / SEAHAWKS  
JOHNATHAN JOSEPH / BENGALS  
BRYANT MCFADDEN / STEELERS  
ANTREL ROLLE / CARDINALS  
FABIAN WASHINGTON / RAIDERS  
JIMMY WILLIAMS / FALCONS  
ASHTON YEOBOTHY / BILLS

#### PAST THEIR PRIME

SAM MADISON / GIANTS  
SAMARI ROLLE / RAVENS

#### NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY

GARY BAXTER / BROWNS

### SAFETIES

RK	NAME / TEAM	GRADE	COM.
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1. **ED REED** / RAVENS ..... **4.2**

Simply put, Reed is a joy to watch and a terror to game-plan against. Reed is blessed with rare instincts and excellent quickness. He is a force against both the run and the pass, and he hits bigger than his 5-11, 200-

pound frame would indicate. Reed is an elite talent.

2. **TROY POLAMALU** / STEELERS ..... **4.1** ...u; x

Has made leaps and bounds in coverage since entering the league, especially in the short area. Plays with reckless abandon and can be an intimidating force to running backs and receivers coming over the middle. Struggles defending the deep pass at times and clearly is at his best the closer he is to the line of scrimmage. Polamalu can be an effective blitzer, though he hasn't been deployed as much in this manner the past two seasons.

3. **ADRIAN WILSON** / CARDINALS ..... **4.0** ...u

Some scouts say he has some Ed Reed-like qualities as a ballhawk, and four interceptions in 2006 attest to the fact you can't overlook his coverage skills. The 6-3, 230-pound Wilson is bigger than some cover-2 linebackers and is strong vs. the run. He's dangerous on the blitz, too (13 sacks in the past two seasons). Has good instincts to go with his athleticism, and he has really come into his own.

4. **BRIAN DAWKINS** / EAGLES ..... **3.9** ...d

Dawkins, who will be 34 in October, remains a key part of the Philadelphia defense. He set a career high in tackles (93) and tied a career high in interceptions (four) in 2006. Dawkins is both intimidator and ballhawk, and he has kept himself in good shape over the years.

5. **SEAN TAYLOR** / REDSKINS ..... **3.9** ...u

Only 24, and just entering his fourth NFL season, Taylor has as much upside as any player on this list. If he stays healthy, Taylor is likely to have a long NFL career, as he does so many things well. He has the athleticism of a free safety and hits like a linebacker, too. His maturity has been questioned, but there is no doubting his talent, and he may have only scratched the surface.

6. **BOB SANDERS** / COLTS ..... **3.85** ...x

Missed much of the 2006 season with a knee injury, and when he returned, the impact on the Colts' defense cannot be overstated. Sanders has excellent instincts, and this makes him adept both at playing the role of center fielder and enforcer in the running game. At 5-8, 206 pounds, Sanders is as tough as they come, pound for pound.

7. **KERRY RHODES** / JETS ..... **3.8** ...u

Turned a lot of heads in the scouting community in 2006. An instinctive playmaking safety, Rhodes is an excellent fit in Eric Mangini's defense. One of the AFC's finer center fielders, Rhodes looks poised to embark on a long, productive career. Also effective near the line of

scrimmage.

8. **ROY WILLIAMS** / COWBOYS ..... **3.55** ...c

The book on Williams is an open one: He is excellent close to the line of scrimmage, a run defense's best friend, but he will struggle defending the deep pass. He cannot carry a secondary alone, and the Cowboys' revolving door at free safety forced him into some tough situations last season. Williams may be poised for a comeback season if Dallas can find an answer at the safety spot opposite him.

9. **MADIEU WILLIAMS** / BENGALS ..... **3.5** ...u; x

Rail-thin but tough as nails, Williams is one of the more important members of the Cincinnati defense. The Bengals are just not the same without him in the lineup. Williams can play the role of eighth man in the box or the rangy last line of defense equally well. He has struggled to stay healthy in the past, but he played all 16 games last season.

10. **SEAN JONES** / BROWNS ..... **3.45** ...u

Finally living up to the promise that former Browns head coach Butch Davis saw when he traded back into the second round to select Jones in the 2004 draft. A knee injury shelved Jones for his rookie season, and he did not make much of an impact in '05. But in his third season, Jones was everywhere for a Browns defense that had no shortage of flaws. Jones has ideal size (6-1, 215) for a strong safety, and he's more athletic than a strictly in-the-box defensive back. Jones has a very bright future.

11. **DARREN SHARPER** / VIKINGS ..... **3.4**

Sharper, who turns 32 in November, continues to provide a formidable presence on the back line of Minnesota's defense. Played strong safety last season, but he can also be a ball-hawking free safety.

12. **DONTE WHITNER** / BILLS ..... **3.4** ...u

Like Nick Collins, Whitner is a safety with 4.4 speed. Whitner responded to critics who claimed the Bills had drafted him too high in the 2006 draft, completing a fine rookie season. Other than outstanding size, Whitner has everything you would want in a young safety. He is positioned to make a major leap in Year Two, and he could soon vault up these rankings. In the words of one evaluator, Whitner looks like a more athletic Bob Sanders.

13. **NICK COLLINS** / PACKERS ..... **3.25** ...u

Collins runs like a cornerback, and he's starting to develop a safety's instincts. He could become a Pro Bowl performer in short order, especially if he continues to cut down on his mistakes. His range, tackling ability, toughness and confidence are all assets.

14. **CHRIS HOPE** / TITANS ..... **3.2**

Team observers say Hope was the Titans' defensive MVP in 2006, picking up the slack for FS Lamont Thompson. Hope provided a strong presence vs. the run and served as a major playmaker at strong safety.

15. **YEREMIAH BELL** / DOLPHINS ..... **3.15** ...u

Far from a household name, Bell is very well-known in scouting circles. He lays the wood vs. the run and always seems to be around the ball in passing situations. Bell defended 13 passes last season and forced three fumbles. He's poised to strike it rich in free agency in the 2008 offseason. Playmaker.

#### BEST OF THE REST

16. <b>MARLON MCCREE</b> / CHARGERS	3.1	
17. <b>JOHN LYNCH</b> / BRONCOS	3.05	...d
18. <b>DONOVIN DARIUS</b> / JAGUARS	2.95	...x
19. <b>DEON GRANT</b> / SEAHAWKS	2.95	

#### TOP VETERAN PROSPECTS

JASON ALLEN / DOLPHINS  
DANIEL BULLOCKS / LIONS  
SEAN CONSIDINE / EAGLES  
ROMAN HARPER / SAINTS  
MICHAEL HUFF / RAIDERS  
DAWAN LANDRY / RAVENS  
DANIEL MANNING / BEARS  
BERNARD POLLARD / CHIEFS  
BRODNEY POOL / BROWNS  
STUART SCHWEIGERT / RAIDERS  
KO SIMPSON / BILLS

#### NOT RATED DUE TO INJURY

MIKE BROWN / BEARS  
RODNEY HARRISON / PATRIOTS  
EUGENE WILSON / PATRIOTS

#### PAST HIS PRIME

SAMMY KNIGHT / FREE AGENT  
MIKE MINTER / PANTHERS



# Fantasy football

## CONTEMPLATING FANTASY ISSUES IS A YEAR-ROUND AFFAIR

By **TRENT MODGLIN**  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**T**here is no offseason anymore in the NFL, and the same holds true for the world of fantasy football.

Fantasy owners aren't all that different from the NFL decision-makers during the summer months; they work hard scouring their resources for the most reliable player information, depth-chart changes, recoveries from injury and tweaks in coaching schemes.

There is a great deal to cover since the Colts reigned supreme last February. A lot has happened, and a lot more will transpire between now and Week One. So without further ado, it's time to answer a few questions from readers who are anxious to get a jump-start on fantasy football.

**Q:** If you select near the end of a 12-team draft, who are the good late-first-round values or steals?

— Jim Boyer, Ft. Lauderdale

**A:** Well, here's what you've got to be thinking, Jim. Peyton Manning, a slew of running backs and potentially a wide receiver or two will be gone by the time you're on the clock. But that's not to say there is a shortage of quality at the end of the first and beginning of the second rounds. I'd say Travis Henry, now that he's in the Broncos' proven system, would loom large here. He's a good fit for their downhill, zone-blocking scheme and is a powerful back with a good burst. Some owners might not believe Eagles RB Brian Westbrook or Steelers RB Willie Parker can match their career years of 2006, which could make them available. Laurence Maroney has the job all to himself in New England, as does Joseph Addai in Indianapolis. You'd have to think that Reggie Bush's electric skills will make somebody bite on him earlier than the aforementioned group, which could leave you sitting pretty. If you play in a format favorable for QB scoring, an elite passer should be there for



**A keeper:** Colts RB Joseph Addai is poised to improve upon his impressive rookie season

the taking as well. Carson Palmer is capable of Manning-like numbers, and Drew Brees easily should surpass 4,000 yards passing again. I think you could get two solid running backs, and then tap into the QB or WR pool in the third or fourth round.

**Q:** Now that the Vikings have both the underrated Chester Taylor as well as the punishing and game-breaking Adrian Peterson, in which round of our fantasy draft should Peterson be selected?

— Antonio, Duluth, MN.

**A:** This is going to be one of the fantasy world's more intriguing position battles, and my advice would be to keep a close eye on just how much progress Peterson makes in training camp. Here's the thing: The Vikings didn't draft Peterson seventh overall for him to ride the pine. But at the same time, Taylor's versatility certainly will keep him in the mix. My guess is they'll split carries, with Peterson getting the edge in terms of touches and in the goal-line role and Taylor seeing

time on third downs. Peterson probably will go in the third-round range, but that could change based on preseason action.

**Q:** It's late in your draft, and you have all your starters and backups to cover bye weeks. Who do you draft as a "diamond in the rough" that will make you look like a genius if that player ends up being a fantasy starter before season's end?

— Keith Leyendecker, Rochester, NY

**A:** Look like a genius, eh? Let's see. How about Jeff Garcia? He ended last season on a hot streak and will play in a similar West Coast offense again under Jon Gruden, who had all kinds of success with a similar quarterback in Rich Gannon. Though he's frustratingly streaky, the Bears' Rex Grossman is worth a late flier, and Matt Schaub is definitely one to watch now that he gets his chance in Houston. Adrian Peterson (not the rookie from Oklahoma) will be backing up the oft-injured Cedric Benson in Chicago and has proven himself in brief stints in the past. Ladell Betts is a favorite of offensive coordinator Al Saunders in Washington, and with the way he played in place of the injured Clinton Portis last season, Betts will have a decent role of some kind. Second-year RBs Jerious Norwood and DeAngelo Williams should see significantly more work in Atlanta and Carolina, respectively, though don't wait too long on either. Broncos WR Brandon Marshall is a big play waiting to happen and should supplant Rod Smith this season. High expectations also surround athletic WR Vincent Jackson in San Diego. The Raiders' Ronald Curry was very solid down the stretch last season despite all the turmoil in Oakland, and he should step into a starting job with Randy Moss gone. TE Owen Daniels of the Texans quietly had a very solid '06 and only should be better with Schaub. A defense? How about the Raiders, who have drafted very well on that side of the ball in recent years and have a lot of playmakers. Late in the draft is a good time to "handcuff" a running back as well. That means if you snared an elite back early in the draft, take his backup in the last couple rounds for insurance (i.e. Michael Turner, Michael Bennett, Mewelde Moore, Mike Bell and Norwood).

**Q:** I'm in a 10-team league where we get one point per catch and six points per



*touchdown. I have to keep one player from Steve Smith, Reggie Bush, Ronnie Brown, Joseph Addai and Edgerrin James.*

— Mike Patrick, Clifton Springs, NY

**A:** Tough one, Mike, and one I'm sure you'll be grappling with right up until the deadline. In a close call, I think I'd have to take Addai, now that Dominic Rhodes is with the Silver & Black. Addai had a phenomenal rookie season in which he really adapted well to the Colts' complex offense and the nuances of the pro game. Expect him to approach the type of numbers James regularly put up in Indy sooner rather than later (including as a receiver). The others are all good choices, but I think with Addai's youth and upside on the explosive Colts offense, he's your man.

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**Q:** *I've been in many fantasy leagues over the past 15 years, and for the most part, those who were strong at the RB position made the playoffs. With teams going more with multiple backs, do you think there is better value elsewhere, or should you still lean toward running backs when undecided on any given pick?*

— Stephen Martisofsky

**A:** There is an increasing number of committee systems (Jacksonville, Oakland, Washington, New Orleans, Dallas, N.Y. Giants, Detroit, potentially Miami, etc.) to worry about, and the fantasy depth is improved at quarterback, wideout and even tight end, but there are fewer workhorse backs to choose from. It's closer now for sure, but I still think the depth drops off a bit quicker at the RB position, and everyone loves to have a pair of top-notch options every week, which often makes it a grab-and-dash scenario on draft day. I guess, if anything, you might want to be prepared for a trend that has owners jumping ship a bit earlier following the early run on running backs. In years past, maybe the run lasted well into the 20s on the RB list, where now you could see owners turning toward another position when the RB list hits the mid-to-late teens. Also, I never advise grabbing a running back just to grab one; you can risk losing out on higher value elsewhere. Make some dropoff points on your draftboard to know when to start looking elsewhere to maximize the potential of your roster.

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**Q:** *1. Will Kevin Curtis be able to excel and have better numbers with Donovan McNabb throwing to him, or will he still stay in that 5-6 TD range for the year?*

*2. Which Bengals receiver will step up and replace Chris Henry while he is serving his eight-game suspension?*

*3. Is Brandon Jacobs capable of filling Tiki Barber's role now that Barber's retired?*

*4. Who will step up and replace Ahman Green in Green Bay?*

*5. Which free agent who changed teams will have the biggest impact this year?*

— P. Richardson

**A:** Getting your money's worth, huh? Nothing wrong with that. Let's see... 1.) As

Donovan McNabb's No. 1B target (opposite Reggie Brown), I'd expect better numbers from Curtis than what he posted as the No. 3 receiver in St. Louis. The Eagles use the tight end and RB Brian Westbrook a lot in the passing game, but it's conceivable with a larger workload, a healthy McNabb and Philly's pass-happy system, Curtis could approach 1,000 yards and eight touchdowns. 2.) Tab Perry or Antonio Chatman will be the direct beneficiaries from Henry's suspension, but also keep an eye on pass-catching RBs Kenny Watson and Chris Perry. 3.) Jacobs probably isn't prepared or suited to replace Barber on a full-time basis, but his value certainly increases. Look for him to remain a beast in the red zone. 4.) Vernand Morency will get the first crack, but shifty rookie Brandon Jackson will no doubt be nipping at his heels in training camp. 5.) The obvious choices are Willis McGahee in Baltimore and Travis Henry in Denver. But a fun one to watch will be Matt Schaub being handed the reins in Houston. Others with decent chances at making serious noise with their new teams are Jets RB Thomas Jones, Bucs QB Jeff Garcia, Texans RB Ahman Green and Patriots WRs Randy Moss and Donté Stallworth.

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**Q:** *Will Mike Shanahan feature Travis Henry as a three-down type of back with 20-plus carries or will it be a RB-by-committee again?*

— Keith Lau

**A:** This subject will be on a lot of minds later this summer, and from what people in Denver are telling me, it's definitely Henry's gig in 2007. Shanahan has longed for a sturdy, reliable bellcow back for years. He thought he had it for a while in Mike Anderson and Reuben Droughns, but they didn't have the staying power. The Broncos view Henry as the type of back who can wear down defenses and move the chains in the fourth quarter. They don't think the same way about Mike Bell, who is serviceable but doesn't have many special qualities. I'm very high on Henry this season and can't imagine him — barring injury — being a fantasy disappointment.

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**Q:** *I was able to acquire both Steven Jackson and Frank Gore last year. I can only keep one. Help.*

— Derek Blom

**A:** Not exactly a bad problem to have, Derek, but surely one that will have you reaching for the Pepto-Bismol later this summer. We have Jackson ranked third among running backs and Gore sixth. Both are hard runners capable of taking it the distance and good receivers, but we just believe there are fewer risks with Jackson. Gore's lengthy injury history despite his young age is worrisome for a keeper league. The Niners' offense is also a much bigger question mark than that of the Rams, especially with the departure of offensive coordinator Norv Turner. Jackson's 90 catches (for 806 yards and three



**Low-risk:** Steven Jackson's durability and talent make him a sure-fire, top-10 fantasy pick

TDs) were the most among non-wide receivers in the entire NFL.

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**Q:** *In your opinion, has Tampa Bay done anything this offseason to give Cadillac Williams a chance to rush for more than 1,000 yards in 2007? Thanks.*

— George Najjar

**A:** Without question, Cadillac has been one of the bigger fantasy disappointments since his record-setting start as a rookie. There are a number of factors, including nagging injuries, porous OL play and a lack of effectiveness on his part. The hope is that a young offensive line, bolstered by the addition of veteran OLT Luke Petitgout, will continue to mature and the quarterback, whether it be Chris Simms or Jeff Garcia, brings more balance offensively. Opposing defenses were able to stack the line of scrimmage against Williams last season, in large part because backup QB Bruce Gradkowski's lack of



**POSITION-BY-POSITION  
FANTASY DRAFT BOARD**  
TURN TO PAGE 44

arm strength wasn't able to keep defenses honest. There is a lot of work to be done, however, and there seems to be a bit of a ceiling on Williams' fantasy potential right now because of all the question marks.



# DRAFT BOARD

Based on the following system: six points for TD runs/catches, three points for TD passes, and various yardage bonuses. As of May 2.

## Quarterbacks

RK.	PLAYER / TEAM	BYE
1.	Payton Manning / Colts	6
2.	Carson Palmer / Bengals	5
3.	Tom Brady / Patriots	10
4.	Marc Bulger / Rams	9
5.	Drew Brees / Saints	4
6.	Donovan McNabb / Eagles	5
7.	Michael Vick / Falcons	8
8.	Matt Hasselbeck / Seahawks	8
9.	Philip Rivers / Chargers	7
10.	Vince Young / Titans	4
11.	Jay Cutler / Broncos	6
12.	Jon Kitna / Lions	6
13.	Tony Romo / Cowboys	8
14.	Elia Manning / Giants	9
15.	Matt Leinart / Cardinals	8
16.	Brett Favre / Packers	7
17.	Ben Roethlisberger / Steelers	6
18.	Steve McNair / Ravens	8
19.	Jake Delhomme / Panthers	7
20.	Rex Grossman / Bears	9
21.	Chad Pennington / Jets	10
22.	Matt Schaub / Texans	10
23.	Alex Smith / 49ers	6
24.	Damon Huard / Chiefs	8
25.	Jason Campbell / Redskins	4
26.	Jeff Garcia / Buccaneers	10
27.	Byron Leftwich / Jaguars	4
28.	Daunte Culpepper / Dolphins	9
29.	J.P. Losman / Bills	6
30.	Trent Green / Chiefs	8
31.	Josh McCown / Raiders	5
32.	Tarvaris Jackson / Vikings	5
33.	Brady Quinn / Browns	7
34.	JaMarcus Russell / Raiders	5
35.	Chris Simms / Buccaneers	10
36.	Charlie Frye / Browns	7
37.	Kurt Warner / Cardinals	8
38.	David Garrard / Jaguars	4
39.	David Carr / Panthers	7
40.	Brian Griese / Bears	9
41.	Aaron Rodgers / Packers	7
42.	John Beck / Dolphins	9
43.	Joey Harrington / Falcons	8
44.	Kyle Boller / Ravens	8
45.	Brooks Bollinger / Vikings	5
46.	A.J. Feeley / Eagles	5
47.	Patrick Ramsey / Broncos	6
48.	Brad Johnson / Cowboys	8
49.	Seneca Wallace / Seahawks	8
50.	Kellen Clemens / Jets	10

## Running backs

RK.	PLAYER / TEAM	BYE
1.	LaDainian Tomlinson / Chargers	7
2.	Larry Johnson / Chiefs	8
3.	Steven Jackson / Rams	9
4.	Shaun Alexander / Seahawks	8
5.	Frank Gore / 49ers	6
6.	Rudi Johnson / Bengals	5
7.	Brian Westbrook / Eagles	5
8.	Willie Parker / Steelers	6
9.	Joseph Addai / Colts	6
10.	Reggie Bush / Saints	4
11.	Travis Henry / Broncos	6
12.	Willis McGahee / Ravens	8
13.	Ronnie Brown / Dolphins	9
14.	Laurence Maroney / Patriots	10
15.	Edgerrin James / Cardinals	8

16.	Deuce McAllister / Saints	4
17.	Cedric Benson / Bears	9
18.	Maurice Jones-Drew / Jaguars	4
19.	Thomas Jones / Jets	10
20.	Marlon Barber III / Cowboys	8
21.	Clinton Portis / Redskins	4
22.	Adrian Peterson / Vikings	5
23.	Brandon Jacobs / Giants	9
24.	Cadillac Williams / Buccaneers	10
25.	Warrick Dunn / Falcons	8
26.	Marshawn Lynch / Bills	6
27.	Julius Jones / Cowboys	8
28.	Ahman Green / Texans	10
29.	Fred Taylor / Jaguars	4
30.	Jamal Lewis / Browns	7
31.	Tatum Bell / Lions	6
32.	LaMont Jordan / Raiders	5
33.	DeAngelo Williams / Panthers	7
34.	Ladell Betts / Redskins	4
35.	Kevin Jones / Lions	6
36.	Chester Taylor / Vikings	5
37.	Vernand Morency / Packers	7
38.	LenDale White / Titans	4
39.	Jerious Norwood / Falcons	8
40.	Brandon Jackson / Packers	7
41.	Reuben Droughns / Giants	9
42.	Dominic Rhodes / Raiders	5
43.	DeShaun Foster / Panthers	7
44.	Leon Washington / Jets	10
45.	Mike Bell / Broncos	6
46.	Anthony Thomas / Bills	6
47.	Michael Turner / Chargers	7
48.	Michael Bennett / Chiefs	8
49.	Chris Henry / Titans	4
50.	Adrian Peterson / Bears	9
51.	Corey Dillon / free agent	
52.	Maurice Morris / Seahawks	8
53.	Mewelde Moore / Vikings	5
54.	T.J. Duckett / Lions	6
55.	Kevin Faulk / Patriots	10
56.	Correll Buckhalter / Eagles	5
57.	Maurice Hicks / 49ers	6
58.	Brian Leonard / Rams	9
59.	Ron Dayne / Texans	10
60.	Najeh Davenport / Steelers	6
61.	Ricky Williams / Dolphins	9
62.	Lorenzo Booker / Dolphins	9
63.	Kenny Irons / Bengals	5
64.	DeDe Dorsey / Colts	6
65.	Chris Brown / free agent	
66.	Greg Jones / Jaguars	4
67.	Michael Pittman / Buccaneers	10
68.	Mike Anderson / Ravens	8
69.	Marcel Shipp / Cardinals	8
70.	Wali Lundy / Texans	10
71.	Musa Smith / Ravens	8
72.	Chris Taylor / Texans	10
73.	J.J. Arrington / Cardinals	8
74.	Sammy Morris / Patriots	10
75.	Michael Bush / Raiders	5
76.	Tony Hunt / Eagles	5
77.	Noah Herron / Packers	7
78.	Mike Alstott / Buccaneers	10
79.	Kolby Smith / Chiefs	8
80.	Justin Fargas / Raiders	5

## Wide receivers

RK.	PLAYER / TEAM	BYE
1.	Marvin Harrison / Colts	6
2.	Chad Johnson / Bengals	5
3.	Steve Smith / Panthers	7

4.	Torry Holt / Rams	9
5.	Terrell Owens / Cowboys	8
6.	Larry Fitzgerald / Cardinals	8
7.	Javon Walker / Broncos	6
8.	Reggie Wayne / Colts	6
9.	Roy Williams / Lions	6
10.	Anquan Boldin / Cardinals	8
11.	Donald Driver / Packers	7
12.	T.J. Houshmandzadeh / Bengals	5
13.	Plaxico Burress / Giants	9
14.	Lee Evans / Bills	6
15.	Andre Johnson / Texans	10
16.	Randy Moss / Patriots	10
17.	Marques Colston / Saints	4
18.	Calvin Johnson / Lions	6
19.	Hines Ward / Steelers	6
20.	Laveranues Coles / Jets	10
21.	Reggie Brown / Eagles	5
22.	Terry Glenn / Cowboys	8
23.	Santana Moss / Redskins	4
24.	Darrell Jackson / 49ers	6
25.	Chris Chambers / Dolphins	9
26.	Mark Clayton / Ravens	8
27.	Joey Galloway / Buccaneers	10
28.	Vincent Jackson / Chargers	7
29.	Bernard Berrian / Bears	9
30.	Braylon Edwards / Browns	7
31.	Jerricho Cotchery / Jets	10
32.	Donté Stallworth / Patriots	10
33.	Deion Branch / Seahawks	8
34.	Jerry Porter / Raiders	5
35.	Joe Horn / Falcons	8
36.	Kevin Curtis / Eagles	5
37.	Eddie Kennison / Chiefs	8
38.	Matt Jones / Jaguars	4
39.	Drew Bennett / Rams	9
40.	Greg Jennings / Packers	7
41.	Santonio Holmes / Steelers	6
42.	Muhsin Muhammad / Bears	9
43.	Marty Booker / Dolphins	9
44.	Brandon Jones / Titans	4
45.	Ronald Curry / Raiders	5
46.	Ashley Lelie / 49ers	6
47.	Troy Williamson / Vikings	5
48.	Isaac Bruce / Rams	9
49.	Brandon Marshall / Broncos	6
50.	Mike Furrey / Lions	6
51.	Devery Henderson / Saints	4
52.	Dwayne Bowe / Chiefs	8
53.	Ted Ginn Jr. / Dolphins	9
54.	Michael Jenkins / Falcons	8
55.	David Givens / Titans	4
56.	Anthony Gonzalez / Colts	6
57.	D.J. Hackett / Seahawks	8
58.	Dwayne Jarrett / Panthers	7
59.	Keyshawn Johnson / free agent	
60.	Reggie Williams / Jaguars	4
61.	Patrick Crayton / Cowboys	8
62.	Derrick Mason / Ravens	8
63.	Robert Meachem / Saints	4
64.	Sidney Rice / Vikings	5
65.	Eric Parker / Chargers	7
66.	Hank Baskett / Eagles	5
67.	Amarion Toomer / Giants	9
68.	Wes Welker / Patriots	10
69.	Bryant Johnson / Cardinals	8
70.	Joe Jurevicius / Browns	7
71.	Steve Smith / Giants	9
72.	Samie Parker / Chiefs	8
73.	Kelley Washington / Patriots	10

74.	Antonio Bryant / free agent	
75.	Arnaz Battle / 49ers	6
76.	Peerless Price / Bills	6
77.	Rod Smith / Broncos	6
78.	Tab Perry / Bengals	5
79.	Craig Davis / Chargers	7
80.	Reche Caldwell / Patriots	10
81.	Cedrick Wilson / Steelers	6
82.	Shaun McDonald / Lions	6
83.	Brandon Stokley / Broncos	6
84.	Eric Moulds / free agent	
85.	Chris Henry / Bengals	5
86.	Travis Taylor / free agent	
87.	Keenan McCardell / free agent	
88.	Nate Washington / Steelers	6
89.	Sinorice Moss / Giants	9
90.	Chris Davis / Titans	4
91.	Jabar Gaffney / Patriots	10
92.	Antwaan Randle El / Redskins	4
93.	Dante Hall / Rams	9
94.	Roddy White / Falcons	8
95.	Antonio Chatman / Bengals	5
96.	Mike Williams / Raiders	5
97.	Terrance Copper / Saints	4
98.	Troy Brown / free agent	
99.	Jeff Webb / Chiefs	8
100.	Malcom Floyd / Chargers	7

## Tight ends

RK.	PLAYER / TEAM	BYE
1.	Antonio Gates / Chargers	7
2.	Tony Gonzalez / Chiefs	8
3.	Jeremy Shockey / Giants	9
4.	Todd Heap / Ravens	8
5.	Alge Crumpler / Falcons	8
6.	Chris Cooley / Redskins	4
7.	Ben Watson / Patriots	10
8.	Vernon Davis / 49ers	6
9.	L.J. Smith / Eagles	5
10.	Kellen Winslow / Browns	7
11.	Jason Witten / Cowboys	8
12.	Dallas Clark / Colts	6
13.	Randy McMichael / Rams	9
14.	Eric Johnson / Saints	4
15.	Tony Scheffler / Broncos	6
16.	Heath Miller / Steelers	6
17.	Mercedes Lewis / Jaguars	4
18.	Greg Olsen / Bears	9
19.	Bo Scaife / Titans	4
20.	Owen Daniels / Texans	10
21.	David Martin / Dolphins	9
22.	Visanthe Shiancoe / Vikings	5
23.	Daniel Graham / Broncos	6
24.	Marcus Pollard / Seahawks	8
25.	Alex Smith / Buccaneers	10
26.	Ben Utech / Colts	6
27.	Desmond Clark / Bears	9
28.	Chris Baker / Jets	10
29.	David Thomas / Patriots	10
30.	Jerramy Stevens / Buccaneers	10
31.	Leonard Pope / Cardinals	8
32.	Michael Gaines / Panthers	7
33.	Zach Miller / Raiders	5
34.	Anthony Fasano / Cowboys	8
35.	Job Puetzler / Texans	10
36.	Jermaine Wiggins / Jaguars	4
37.	Courtney Anderson / Raiders	5
38.	Robert Royal / Bills	6
39.	Steve Heiden / Browns	7
40.	Dan Campbell / Lions	6

## Placekickers

RK.	PLAYER / TEAM	BYE
1.	Adam Vinatieri / Colts	6
2.	Robbie Gould / Bears	9
3.	Jeff Wilkins / Rams	9
4.	Nate Kaeding / Chargers	7
5.	Shayne Graham / Bengals	5
6.	Jason Elam / Broncos	6
7.	Matt Stover / Ravens	8
8.	Neil Rackers / Cardinals	8
9.	David Akers / Eagles	5
10.	John Kasay / Panthers	7
11.	Josh Brown / Seahawks	8
12.	Lawrence Tynes / Chiefs	8
13.	Josh Scobee / Jaguars	4
14.	Jay Feely / Dolphins	9
15.	Stephen Gostkowski / Patriots	10
16.	Olindo Mare / Saints	4
17.	Rian Lindell / Bills	6
18.	Jason Hanson / Lions	6
19.	Mike Nugent / Jets	10
20.	Ryan Longwell / Vikings	5
21.	Sebastian Janikowski / Raiders	5
22.	Jeff Reed / Steelers	6
23.	Joe Nedney / 49ers	6
24.	Kris Brown / Texans	10
25.	Giants kicker	9
26.	Matt Bryant / Buccaneers	10
27.	Rob Bironas / Titans	4
28.	Falcons kicker	8
29.	Shaun Suisham / Redskins	4
30.	Cowboys kicker	8
31.	Phil Dawson / Browns	7
32.	Packers kicker	7

## Defenses

RK.	PLAYER / TEAM	BYE
1.	Baltimore Ravens	8
2.	Chicago Bears	9
3.	New England Patriots	10
4.	San Diego Chargers	7
5.	Miami Dolphins	9
6.	Denver Broncos	6
7.	Pittsburgh Steelers	6
8.	Dallas Cowboys	8
9.	Jacksonville Jaguars	4
10.	Philadelphia Eagles	5
11.	Minnesota Vikings	5
12.	Carolina Panthers	7
13.	Kansas City Chiefs	8
14.	Oakland Raiders	5
15.	Seattle Seahawks	8
16.	Indianapolis Colts	6
17.	New York Jets	10
18.	New Orleans Saints	4
19.	Green Bay Packers	7
20.	Tampa Bay Buccaneers	10
21.	San Francisco 49ers	6
22.	New York Giants	9
23.	Washington Redskins	4
24.	Cincinnati Bengals	5
25.	Buffalo Bills	6
26.	Atlanta Falcons	8
27.	Arizona Cardinals	8
28.	St. Louis Rams	9
29.	Pittsburgh Steelers	6
30.	Tennessee Titans	4
31.	Cleveland Browns	7
32.	Houston Texans	10

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# New Sensations

DAVID DUROCHIK / SPORTPICS

## Breaking down the most intriguing fantasy football rookies of 2007

By **CORY J. BONINI**

KFFL SENIOR MANAGING EDITOR



EXCLUSIVE CONTENT COURTESY OF KFFL

**A**fter a number of surprising picks, a few trades and a free fall of epic proportions, the 2007 NFL draft provided a great deal of excitement to football fans aplenty. As we at KFFL.com figured, the draft was busy with a myriad of trades, but these trades didn't begin as early as expected. Read on to learn the applied fantasy value, at this time, for any prospect that may have notable fantasy worth during his rookie season.

### QUARTERBACKS

#### JaMARCUS RUSSELL

OAKLAND RAIDERS HT: 6-6 WT: 263

Being selected No. 1 overall brings extremely high expectations. Looking to turn around a dismal franchise, Russell will have to learn on the fly. He is of course

expected to win the Raiders' job, but he may have to battle QBs Josh McCown and Andrew Walter during training camp. From a fantasy standpoint, any owner looking to draft Russell should be playing in a full-retention keeper format. His long-term value clearly exceeds his short-term fantasy worth, and it is going to be interesting to see if the Oakland offensive line can provide him better protection than it offered last year's group of signalcallers.

#### BRADY QUINN

CLEVELAND BROWNS HT: 6-3 WT: 226

Longtime rock musician Tom Petty's "Free Fallin'" must have been running through the mind of the former Notre Dame standout as he waited to be select-

ed. Expected to be a top-five draft selection, Quinn watched on and appeared to be in complete disbelief after the Miami Dolphins passed on him at No. 9 overall. Sliding all the way to the No. 22 pick before being drafted by the Browns, which was his favorite team growing up, Quinn now figures to enter training camp in a battle with incumbent starting QB Charlie Frye. Regardless of whether Quinn wins the job or not, his fantasy outlook is not too bright for '07. Any owner that is expecting Quinn to lead his fantasy team to glory in '07 is in for a rude awakening. Rookie quarterbacks simply do not provide enough in the way of production or consistency to be counted on in fantasy leagues, and Quinn is no different.

### RUNNING BACKS

#### ADRIAN PETERSON

MINNESOTA VIKINGS HT: 6-2 WT: 218

Peterson comes to the Vikings with enormous upside but also has the injury-prone label cast upon him by many. Peterson



received an endorsement from esteemed surgeon Dr. James Andrews, so his collarbone should be considered a minimal risk. RB Chester Taylor rushed for more than 1,200 yards in '07, but the team was concerned with his durability and made it clear they wanted to reduce his workload to keep him fresh in '07. Being teamed with Taylor this year makes Peterson's immediate fantasy value murky, but he is, in a best-case scenario, a No. 3 fantasy running back at this time.

### MARSHAWN LYNCH

BUFFALO BILLS | HT: 5-11 | WT: 217

Selected slightly higher than most people anticipated or believed was warranted, Lynch is likely to enter the season as the starting running back for the Bills. He will see some competition from veteran RB Anthony Thomas, but Lynch clearly has a better skill set and should win out during training camp. His ability to run inside, outside, catch out of the backfield and pick up blitzes makes Lynch a viable fantasy candidate for '07. The RB position is probably easiest for a rookie to learn, so fantasy owners can look to target Lynch as a quality No. 3 option with great upside.

### KENNY IRONS

CINCINNATI BENGALS | HT: 5-11 | WT: 195

The selection of Irons — in the second round, no less — was a bit surprising seeing as he isn't the greatest receiver out of the backfield. He is a nice change-of-pace runner in contrast to the bruising style of RB Rudi Johnson, so he could see a decent amount of time during his rookie season. With RB Chris Perry (fibula) possibly not ready for training camp, Irons' value increases. Draft him as a late-round flier in single-year leagues once his role is more clearly defined.

### CHRIS HENRY

TENNESSEE TITANS | HT: 6-0 | WT: 228

Not to be confused with his namesake — the Bengals' troubled wide receiver — this University of Arizona product has a clean record. Henry impressed many by posting a blazing 40-yard dash time of 4.40 seconds at the Scouting Combine. A bit of a surprise selection in the second round, Henry is expected to challenge '06 second-round pick LenDale White for the starting job. From a fantasy perspective, watch how this situation plays itself out during the off-season — and perhaps even into preseason games — before viable fantasy worth becomes clear. It is entirely possible to see



**Pretty in purple:** Adrian Peterson could pay immediate fantasy dividends in Minnesota

round by the Packers to enter an offseason battle with RBs Vernand Morency and Noah Herron. Jackson's running style fits the Packers' one-cut, zone-blocking scheme very well. His instincts, decisions on the fly and vision should aid his cause in becoming the team's '07 starting running back. However, we see a committee approach shaking out here. Much like other RB situations discussed in this article, watching this battle play out in camp is a must before fantasy value is applied to Jackson. Should he win the job and receive the bulk of the carries, he could be a sleeper No. 3 fantasy back down the stretch.

### ANTONIO PITTMAN

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS | HT: 5-11 | WT: 195

In what was a slightly curious selection, the Saints chose Pittman in the fourth round. A back-to-back 1,000-yard rusher at Ohio State, Pittman runs a 4.40 40 and can get to the edge. In his rookie season, Pittman doesn't figure to contribute much offensively, playing behind RBs Deuce McAllister and Reggie Bush, so fantasy owners can look elsewhere for a sleeper pick for '07. Pittman's long-term value increases considering McAllister's age and significant contract.

### TONY HUNT

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES | HT: 6-0 | WT: 230

Hunt enters a situation in which he could find himself contributing early and often in '07. He will likely battle against RB Correll Buckhalter during training camp for the role of Philly's short-yardage back. Fantasy owners need to take a wait-and-see approach with Hunt. Keep an eye on this situation during the off-season, and consider Hunt in the waning rounds of your fantasy draft should he unseat Buckhalter. Otherwise, he should be viewed as a potential waiver-wire pickup during the season.

### BRIAN LEONARD

ST. LOUIS RAMS | HT: 6-1 | WT: 226

Leonard should come in and play a versatile role for the Rams in '07. The team has publicly stated it wants to reduce the workload of RB Steven Jackson, so expect to see Leonard take over some of the duties, primarily as a receiver out of the backfield. He probably shouldn't be drafted in fantasy leagues, but the waiver wire could be an area where he makes his impact.

the team utilize a RB-by-committee approach, so be prepared.

### LORENZO BOOKER

MIAMI DOLPHINS | HT: 5-10 | WT: 193

Booker enters a situation that could become hazier before it becomes clear. Much of his role with the team and fantasy worth hinges upon what the club opts to do with RB Ricky Williams, should the league reinstate him. Booker's best-case fantasy value would be found in a scenario that removes Williams from the picture entirely, of course. In this event, Booker would be used as the team's third-down back and could have fair value in point-per-reception fantasy formats. If Williams remains, play the waiting game before determining Booker's value, which is likely to be nil if Williams remains in the mix.

### BRANDON JACKSON

GREEN BAY PACKERS | HT: 5-10 | WT: 210

Jackson was selected in the second



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## WIDE RECEIVERS

### CALVIN JOHNSON

DETROIT LIONS | HT: 6-4 | WT: 237

Some said it couldn't be done, but once again, Detroit general manager Matt Millen proved them wrong. Four wide receivers drafted in the first round of their past five drafts will make a few people scratch their heads, but it's a matter of drafting the best player available in the draft, which the Lions did. The pick gives the Lions a dynamic group of wide receivers in Roy Williams, Johnson and Mike Furrey, who is expected to shift into the slot role. Johnson has the physical tools and talent to push the third-year breakout rule to the curb. Expect Johnson to contribute considerably for the Lions during his rookie campaign. He should be drafted safely as a No. 4 fantasy receiver with a lot of upside to become a quality No. 3 or lower No. 2 by season's end.

### DWAYNE BOWE

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS | HT: 6-2 | WT: 217

In what was a bit of a surprising pick, the Chiefs made Bowe their man after passing on other receiving options, such as Robert Meachem, that seemingly would have been better choices. The Chiefs needed to do something at the position with WR Dante Hall being traded to the Rams and no one else on the team's roster stepping up in a distinguishing manner. Bowe is physical and has excellent hands, but he doesn't possess great speed. His learning curve may be higher than what it would have been with other players at his position, so fantasy owners may want to look at him as somewhat of a project. Only consider drafting him in full-retention keeper formats at this time.

### TED GINN JR.

MIAMI DOLPHINS | HT: 6-0 | WT: 180

Simply put, Ginn was a reach at No. 9 overall, and the pick doesn't excite us in any way. It didn't excite too many Miami fans in attendance at the draft, either. The pick of Ginn offers little in the way of fantasy value as a receiver during the '07 season. His adjustment period to the pro ranks figures to be a lengthy transition as a wideout, but he should be an exciting return specialist. Unfortunately for fantasy owners of Ginn, that doesn't matter much. He could help improve the worth of the Dolphins' defense/special-teams unit, but his true fantasy value may be best found in '08 or '09 as a slot receiver.

### CRAIG DAVIS

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS | HT: 6-1 | WT: 207

The Chargers certainly reached for Davis, but they feel he fits well into their system and is what they are looking for in a wide receiver. We have reservations about agreeing with this selection, but fantasy owners do not care which round a player was chosen in if he contributes early. Given the learning curve and the fact that Davis is buried in the pecking order of receiving targets, Davis' '07 fantasy outlook is bleak. He will probably be the fifth receiving

option on the team, even as the slot receiver. Don't bother drafting him in single-year formats, and don't consider him until late in full-retention formats.

### ROBERT MEACHEM

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS | HT: 6-3 | WT: 211

Meachem slid a bit further down the draft than most people expected. He enters a great situation for a wide receiver with a pass-happy head coach in Sean Payton, a Pro Bowl quarterback in Drew Brees and a formidable ground game. Oh, and we forgot to mention the Saints have a gaping hole at the No. 2 WR position, which benefits Meachem six ways to Sunday. Fantasy owners should be drooling at the prospects of WR Marques Colston drawing double-teams while Meachem burns single coverage. View him as a high-upside player in the final rounds of your draft in single-year leagues, and up that value in keeper formats.

### SIDNEY RICE

MINNESOTA VIKINGS | HT: 6-4 | WT: 202

The Vikings addressed their receiver needs to a degree by spending a second-round pick on their second South Carolina wideout in the past three years (Troy Williamson being the other). Rice has excellent physical tools and size, but coming from a Steve Spurrier offense provides equal question marks. If he can make a transition to a pro-style offense, Rice could be dynamic in a West Coast system. For fantasy purposes in '07, even if he becomes the team's No. 1 receiver, he still has a first-time starting quarterback in Tarvaris Jackson throwing him the ball. Fantasy owners should stay away, but Rice could be a decent waiver-wire pickup as the season unfolds.

### DWAYNE JARRETT

CAROLINA PANTHERS | HT: 6-5 | WT: 213

Jarrett fell to the second round and was snatched up by Carolina. With great body control, excellent hands and respectable route-running abilities, Jarrett could be a legitimate red-zone option for the Panthers in 2007. Being able to learn behind veteran WR Steve Smith, Jarrett's long-term outlook is bright. For '07, the release of WR Keyshawn Johnson means optimistic owners might draft Jarrett as a No. 4 fantasy receiver in all formats. He should serve as the No. 2 wideout for the Panthers, so there is reason to believe he could be of notable fantasy worth for '07. Jarrett is a safe No. 5 fantasy option, so do not overvalue him.

### ANTHONY GONZALEZ

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS | HT: 6-0 | WT: 195

The Colts threw a bit of a curve ball when they handed an offensive selection to NFL officials with the final pick in the first round. Gonzalez fits their system very well, and while we are not trying to knock his skills, he has a ways to go before being considered for fantasy owners, even in the Colts' prolific offense. He is a small, speedy wideout who is capable of stretching the field out of the slot. His value for

fantasy owners will largely hinge upon how well he learns the playbook during the off-season, but at this time, Gonzalez should be considered as a final-round flier in deeper single-year leagues and as a project to store away in full-retention keeper formats.

### STEVE SMITH

NEW YORK GIANTS | HT: 5-11 | WT: 199

Joining the Giants, Smith doesn't figure to see a lot of action his rookie season, but anything is possible. WR Amani Toomer suffered a partially torn anterior cruciate ligament last season, and their passing game slowed. An early-season hamstring injury to WR Sinorice Moss surely slowed his development, and he is best-suited to be a return specialist. Given the injury history of this WR corps and the trade of WR Tim Carter to the Browns this offseason, there is reason to believe Smith could be slowly worked into the passing game as the season progresses. Still, fantasy owners should stay away in all formats at this time.

## TIGHT ENDS

### GREG OLSEN

CHICAGO BEARS | HT: 6-4 | WT: 252

Being drafted by the NFC champion Bears was not a surprise, but exactly how they plan to fit Olsen into their offensive scheme during his rookie campaign remains an uncertainty. Currently, the belief is that Olsen will be the technical No. 2 tight end while learning the ropes behind veteran TE Desmond Clark, who is coming off a great season. Olsen is a better pure receiver than Clark is, but Clark is a better natural blocker than Olsen. Expect to see Clark start and play heavily during running downs, a scenario that obviously limits Olsen's value for fantasy leagues. He shouldn't be drafted in single-year leagues and is a late-round selection in keeper formats with full-roster holdover.

### ZACH MILLER

OAKLAND RAIDERS | HT: 6-5 | WT: 259

The Raiders spent a second-round pick on Miller, whom they ranked as the No. 1 tight end on their board, according to head coach Lane Kiffin. Miller enters a situation in which he is expected to be named the starter ahead of Courtney Anderson and newcomer Tony Stewart. Reminding us a lot of Ravens TE Todd Heap, Miller is a capable three-down starter. He can block and certainly catches the ball well. Fantasy owners should stay away for '07, simply because of how slowly tight ends generally begin their careers, historically.

## CONCLUSION

Another NFL draft has come and gone, but the excitement will continue to steamroll as we move closer to the '07 season. Make sure to pay close attention to volatile situations as they play out during the off-season, and gauge the player's fantasy value accordingly. Best of luck in '07, but make sure you don't buy into the hype too much surrounding rookies, and be judicious during your draft.





## AFC

2007 PROJECTED  
LEADERS

PASSER RATING

**Peyton Manning**

RUSHING YARDS

**LaDainian Tomlinson**

CATCHES

**Chad Johnson**

SCORING

**LaDainian Tomlinson**

SACKS

**Shawne Merriman**

INTERCEPTIONS

**Champ Bailey**



# NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS



VISUAL IMAGE, INC.

QB TOM BRADY

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **12-4** 1st place /  
AFC East

**A**fter falling one minute short of reaching their fourth Super Bowl in six years, the Patriots went against their usual patient approach in free agency and aggressively upgraded their roster for 2007.

New England first addressed its aging LB corps by signing ex-Ravens SLB Adalius Thomas, one of the top prizes available on the free-agent market, to a lucrative multi-year deal.

Next, the team bolstered its less-than-dynamic WR corps, acquiring Wes

Welker in a trade with Miami, signing free agents Donté Stallworth and Kelley Washington, and swinging the biggest trade of draft weekend when it acquired Randy Moss for a fourth-round pick.

The additions addressed the team's biggest weaknesses and position the Patriots as the team to beat in 2007.

## Offense

Coordinator Josh McDaniels seems to prefer spreading the field and opening up the passing game, but the Patriots didn't possess the personnel to use that style in '06, except against the lowliest pass defenses. With QB Tom Brady at his athletic peak and finally presented with a formidable WR

corps, and Laurence Maroney taking over as the lead back, look for the Pats to utilize the pass more often and attack opponents through the air early to set up the run late.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Considering that QB Tom Brady lost his top two receivers from the previous season, including No. 1 WR Deion Branch via trade right after the '06 season got under way, his performance was rather impressive. Brady did not have his best season, working with a journeyman group of receivers, and came up short in the playoffs for the second straight season. He remains one of the top signalcallers in the league, with outstanding intelligence, decision-making, leadership and compo-



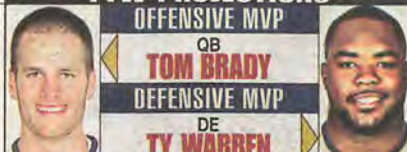


sure. He throws a pretty deep ball, but wasn't able to show off that ability much last season due to his receivers' limitations. Backup Matt Cassel has good size and arm strength but lacks experience.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Corey Dillon and the Patriots mutually agreed to part following a 2006 season in which the former workhorse back became more plodding and less explosive. He was due to lose carries in '07 to Laurence Maroney, so the two sides agreed to release Dillon, who may retire. The Pats believe Maroney is ready to take over as the No. 1 back, given that he is their most explosive big-play threat in the run game. He runs with power, has good quickness and vision and possesses breakaway speed. He's still limited in the passing game, although he can catch screens and check-downs, but needs to work on learning to pass-protect better and must show he can stay healthy. He had shoulder surgery in March but is not expected to miss time in training camp. Veteran Kevin Faulk remains a trusted third-down option due to his ability to excel as a runner on draws and as a receiver. Free-agent addition Sammy Morris also is a good third-down back. He's a good receiver and is really good in pass protection. FB Heath Evans is an adequate blocker and good receiver.

**RECEIVERS** ■ A strong argument can be made that the team's dearth of top-flight receivers in '06 likely cost the Patriots a fourth world title in six seasons. So, it wasn't a surprise to see head coach Bill Belichick and VP/player personnel Scott Pioli aggressively upgrade the position this past offseason. The prize acquisition is WR Randy Moss, a three-time All-Pro. Moss went through the motions in '06 with a bad Raiders team, but took a sizable pay cut to get the chance to play for a title-contending team. When things aren't going well for him or his team, he loses focus and doesn't finish routes or challenge for the ball like he used to, which is why the rebuilding Raiders let him go. However, New England believes a rejuvenated Moss will consistently display his impressive speed and rare athletic ability. WR Donté Stallworth will also help provide the vertical presence the team sorely lacked last year. Stallworth isn't the greatest route runner and doesn't have the most reliable hands, but he was second in the league in yards per catch (19.1-yard average) last season and has never played with a top quarterback like Brady before. One note of caution: He hits such high speeds that his hamstrings tend to pop, and he has never been able to stay healthy. The team traded second- and seventh-round draft picks to Miami to acquire versatile Wes Welker, who will be expected to take over the third-down role filled so ably by Troy Brown in past years. Welker is at his best in the slot. He's good at finding holes in the defense, is really quick and can separate against man or zone coverage. He's also tough, smart, a very good route runner and is fearless catching the ball in a crowd.

## PFW PROJECTIONS



### OFFENSIVE MVP

QB **TOM BRADY**

### DEFENSIVE MVP

DE **TY WARREN**

### BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER

### CB ELLIS HOBBS

After playing virtually all of 2006 with a broken wrist, Hobbs is healthy and poised to build upon an impressive postseason.

### POSITION BATTLE

#### WR:

### OPEN COMPETITION

Behind the top three — Randy Moss, Donté Stallworth and Wes Welker — several quality players are fighting to provide depth.

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

### KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS

TE Kyle Brady, CB Eddie Jackson, CB Tory James, RB Sammy Morris, WR Randy Moss, WR Donté Stallworth, LB Adalius Thomas, WR Kelley Washington, WR Wes Welker.

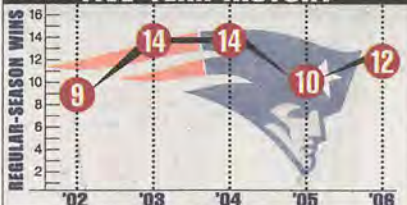
### KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES

DE Tully Banta-Cain, RB Corey Dillon, TE Daniel Graham, P Todd Sauerbrun.

### 2007 DRAFT PICKS

RD	PLAYER	POS	SCHOOL	PICK
1	Brandon Meriweather	FS	Miami (Fla.)	24
4	Kareem Brown	DT	Miami (Fla.)	127
5	Clint Oldenburg	OT	Colorado State	171
6	Justin Rogers	OLB	So. Methodist	180
6	Mike Richardson	CB	Notre Dame	202
6	Justise Hairston	RB	C. Connecticut St.	208
6	Corey Hilliard	OT	Oklahoma State	209
7	Oscar Lua	ILB	USC	211
7	Mike Elgin	OG	Iowa	247

## FIVE-YEAR HISTORY



Most importantly, quarterbacks trust him. Ex-Bengal Kelley Washington is a big, athletic target who runs good routes, has natural hands and can run. However, he has had injury problems in the past and struggled to find the field in Cincinnati. He has classic boom-or-bust potential. Reche Caldwell runs OK routes but doesn't have great separation skills. He's tough and has pretty good hands but is prone to making key drops. Jabar Gaffney is big and athletic but lacks great speed to separate. Chad Jackson disappointed as a rookie with his inability to stay on the field due to injuries to his hamstring (which cost him most of training camp), groin (which cost him a few games during the season) and knee (a torn ACL in the playoff loss to Indy has left his status for this season in doubt). When healthy, he has great size, speed and athleticism, but he is raw as a route runner. Belichick likes to use lots of two-TE sets. The top two TE spots will be filled by Ben Watson and David

Thomas, a pair of talented receivers who can open up the middle of the field. Injuries are a concern for Watson, but he has rare athletic ability for his size, can stick his foot in the ground and get four yards of separation and creates matchup problems for opposing defenders. He also has improved as a blocker. Thomas is a good, instinctive receiver, although he doesn't have great speed or athletic ability. The team signed ex-Jaguar Kyle Brady to fill the on-the-line-of-scrimmage blocking role so ably filled by Daniel Graham before he departed via free agency. Versatile Garrett Mills, who also can play the FB and H-back spots, is also in the mix.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The Pats prefer to fill their O-line with smart, tough over-achievers. OLT Matt Light is steady and tough, although he struggles against top pass rushers and will get beat off the edge. OLG Logan Mankins is tough, nasty, smart and instinctive. He's not a great athlete and doesn't have great size, but he plays with leverage and is the best of the bunch. Although undersized, C Dan Koppen is athletic, tough and very savvy. He can get overpowered at times but is rarely on the ground. ORG Stephen Neal plays a little bit out of control, but he'll wrestle and fight his man. He can get overextended and off-balance and ends up on the ground a little too much. Nick Kaczur and Ryan O'Callaghan will battle for the ORT spot. Kaczur had shoulder surgery following the '05 season and struggled as he slowly recovered. He's not a very good athlete, not very explosive, is short-armed, doesn't have very good feet and struggles at the edge. He gets by with size, instincts and toughness but is better-suited inside. O'Callaghan is not a great athlete, but he has good size and toughness. Backup OG Billy Yates is undersized but has decent athleticism.

## Defense

Thanks to the exceptional trio of Richard Seymour, Ty Warren and Vince Wilfork, the Patriots continue to employ a base 3-4 defense, especially in running situations or against good running teams. In passing situations, or against good passing teams, they like to use a 4-3 alignment that moves Seymour inside, where he can push the pocket, and adds DE Jarvis Green, a good pass rusher. Ultra-versatile LB Adalius Thomas adds another weapon, although continuing to rely on aging LB Tedy Bruschi and S Rodney Harrison could be asking a lot.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ DEs Richard Seymour and Ty Warren and NT Vince Wilfork comprise arguably the top defensive line in the NFL. Seymour is the most talented of the three, with the ability to dominate when he wants to. However, he was somewhat inconsistent last season, with a serious arm injury hindering him for a good part of the season. Warren is the most consistent of the three. He's a physical run-down defender with a pretty good motor and decent pass-rush skills. Wilfork is one



of the best nose tackles in the league. He's a good athlete for his size and is hard to move and hard to block, forcing opponents to double-team him. Jarvis Green is a good five-technique end who plays the run well and has deceptive pass-rush skills. DL Mike Wright is tough, fairly athletic, has size and plays with a high motor. He's better at end than inside because he can't two-gap very well.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ The addition of playmaking OLB Adalius Thomas was a big one for a team whose defense funnels action to its linebackers. The LB corps was a bit thin last season, especially following Junior Seau's season-ending arm injury at midseason. With Thomas joining Rosevelt Colvin outside, the Pats can now move Mike Vrabel inside with Teddy Bruschi to give them a very solid starting foursome. Thomas is a very strong edge player who is not only a powerful blitz — he runs over running backs who try to block him — but also very strong against the run. He can really run for his size (6-4, 270) and creates a lot of confusion with his versatility. Colvin is coming off a good season and still provides a solid pass rush from the edge. He will be helped greatly by Thomas' presence on the opposite side and should get more sack opportunities. Vrabel is not the pass rusher he once was and has acquitted himself well inside at this stage of his career. Both he and Bruschi have lost a step,

but they compensate with great instincts and intelligence. They no longer make the explosive plays they once did and are both liabilities in coverage. Larry Izzo, Pierre Woods and Eric Alexander are primarily special-teamsers.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ The team retained the services of CB Asante Samuel by applying the franchise tag to him. Samuel emerged last season as one of the NFL's top corners, tying for the league lead with 10 interceptions during the regular season, then adding two interception returns for touchdowns in the postseason. He's a very instinctive corner who boasts great anticipation, ball skills and hands but is inconsistent in the run game. Ellis Hobbs is undersized but tough and fast. He suffered a broken wrist early last season and seemed to lose confidence before rallying to perform well in the playoffs. Veteran Tory James, a former Pro Bowler, adds experience but is no longer a starter at this point in his career. He has good size but he has lost a step and struggles to defend the deep pass. Randall Gay is instinctive and versatile but hasn't been able to stay healthy. Veteran Chad Scott is smart and tough and can play safety or corner. Willie Andrews is undersized but boasts good speed and could see some time in sub packages this season. The safety position was bolstered by the addition of rookie Brandon Meriweather, an instinctive, versatile player who compares favorably to Ravens All-Pro Ed Reed. If recovered from

the late-season knee injury that caused him to miss the postseason, Rodney Harrison will again serve as the defense's heart and soul, a big hitter and intimidator who makes receivers take note of where he is. FS Eugene Wilson returns from a season-ending groin/hamstring injury and is expected to regain his starting spot. Artrell Hawkins is a smart, versatile player who lacks great speed. James Sanders is best used in the box, struggling in the deep end and is a liability in coverage.

## Special teams

PK Stephen Gostkowski was brought along brilliantly as a rookie, not being put in many pressure situations until late in the season after his confidence had been sufficiently built up. He ended up making a game-winner to beat San Diego in the divisional-playoff round. His greatest value comes on kickoffs, with 12 touchbacks and an opponents' average drive start of 26.1. Youngsters Tom Malone and Danny Baugher and veteran Josh Miller will battle for the punting job. Wes Welker should upgrade the punt-return game. Sammy Morris' presence should bolster the coverage teams.

## Summary

The Patriots are poised to make a championship run. They believe they have bolstered the areas that most needed help — the receiving corps, running back, linebacker and special teams. Barring injury, this team could be the best in the rugged AFC.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	19-17	24-17	7-17	38-13	20-10	28-6	31-7	20-27	14-17	35-0	17-13	28-21	0-21	40-7	24-21	40-23		
Total net yards	319	358	370	424	213	265	430	349	377	357	352	363	189	230	359	414	5369	
Rushing yards	183	147	50	236	79	94	85	148	145	122	85	79	123	105	117	171	1969	
Passing yards	136	211	320	188	134	171	345	201	232	235	267	284	66	125	242	243	3400	
Rushing plays	41	39	21	41	34	27	15	33	26	40	34	24	25	38	30	31	499	
Sacks allowed	3	1	0	0	1	4	3	0	4	2	0	2	5	1	1	2	29	
Had intercepted	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	4	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	12	
Fumbles lost	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	3	2	3	0	0	0	15	
Yards penalized	5	64	78	61	59	25	85	81	30	38	81	72	71	10	51	129	940	
Punts	4	3	7	3	5	6	4	1	4	6	3	2	7	4	5	5	69	

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	27:05	29:44	31:45	26:04	30:17	28:20	30:15	29:26	30:34	20:50	31:02	30:43	31:20	24:07	22:47	30:17	28:25	
Total net yards	240	338	400	279	283	255	284	354	278	120	324	361	315	198	339	342	4710	
Rushing yards	99	52	144	71	62	75	45	53	117	44	153	77	131	105	144	135	1507	
Passing yards	141	286	256	208	221	180	239	301	161	76	171	284	184	93	195	207	3203	
Rushing plays	24	24	34	17	21	25	15	25	29	16	36	22	31	22	22	25	388	
Sacks allowed	3	4	0	4	1	2	4	3	1	5	1	5	1	4	1	5	44	
Had intercepted	0	1	0	0	2	1	4	1	1	0	3	3	0	4	0	2	22	
Fumbles lost	0	0	0	2	1	3	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	13	
Yards penalized	53	48	52	74	61	67	39	68	28	32	31	70	30	66	60	119	918	
Punts	5	5	8	6	3	5	5	1	5	10	3	1	6	7	5	4	79	

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

#### RUSHING

Brady	5-3-0	1-(-1)-0	2-7-0	2-21-0	4-(-3)-0	2-2-0	1-1-0	3-13-0	4-6-0	6-12-0	6-9-0	2-2-0	10-31-0	1-(-1)-0	49-102-0		
Dillon	16-73-0	20-80-1	5-16-0	17-67-1	10-45-0	14-47-2	3-5-0	13-48-2	11-98-0	12-31-1	11-40-0	9-25-3	16-79-0	20-61-0	10-30-1	12-87-2	199-812-13
Evans		1-0-0	1-3-0	5-12-0	1-0-0		1-35-0		2-8-0	1-4-0	3-8-0	1-5-0	1-4-0	8-24-0	1-0-0	1-14-0	27-117-0
Faulk	3-21-0	1-3-0	1-6-0	1-1-0	1-(-1)-0	1-(-3)-0	1-11-0	4-24-0	1-2-0			5-29-0	4-22-1	2-8-0			25-123-1
Maroney	17-86-0	16-65-1	12-18-0	15-125-2	18-38-0	8-29-0	8-34-0	13-63-0	12-37-0	19-82-0	13-33-1	4-14-0		7-48-1	13-73-1	175-745-6	

#### PASSING \*\*

Brady	11-23-1	15-29-1	31-55-0	15-26-1	16-29-0	18-27-0	29-43-1	20-35-4	24-36-1	20-31-0	22-33-2	27-38-1	12-25-0	16-23-0	28-39-0	15-24-0	319-516-12	
Cassel	163-2	220-1	320-1	188-2	140-2	195-2	372-4	201-0	253-1	0-0-0	267-1	305-0	2-3-0	3-4-0	249-1	0-1-0	5-8-0	
										0-0-0			12-0	20-0		0-0-0	32-0	

#### RECEIVING

T. Brown	2-18-1	4-51-0	4-41-0		5-58-1	2-21-0	2-12-1	5-37-0	1-13-0	4-26-0	1-13-0	2-8-0	3-25-0	1-4-0	4-44-0	3-13-1	43-384-4	
Caldwell	2-33-0	2-14-0	3-46-0	2-20-0	1-5-0	5-22-0	7-84-1	1-21-0	9-90-1	3-70-1	3-57-0	8-112-0	1-12-0	6-25-0	4-15-0	4-134-1	61-760-4	
Dillon	2-22-0						1-27-0	1-5-0	1-5-0			1-3-0	1-5-0	1-1-0	5-20-0	2-59-0	15-147-0	
Faulk	1-17-1	2-16-0	6-34-0	1-18-0	1-15-0	1-11-0	2-12-0	5-31-0	3-23-0	1-13-0	6-37-0	8-59-0	2-12-0	2-46-1	2-12-0		43-356-2	
Gabriel			6-65-1	4-57-1	2-7-0	3-45-1	5-83-0	2-45-0	2-30-0			1-12-0					25-344-3	
Gaffney							1-4-0		3-65-0	1-4-0		1-28-0		1-6-1	3-26-0	1-9-0	11-142-1	
Graham	1-23-0	1-29-0	2-19-0	4-34-1					1-6-0	1-2-1	1-25-0	2-24-0	4-23-0		3-44-0	1-6-0	21-235-2	
Jackson		2-42-1		2-9-0			1-35-1	1-10-1	1-9-0	2-5-0					1-(-2)-0	2-23-0	13-152-3	
Maroney			5-61-0	1-15-0			1-1-0	2-33-0	1-(-1)-0	4-34-1	4-45-0				2-10-0	2-(-4)-0	22-194-1	
D. Thomas		1-29-0				1-11-0		1-12-0						3-24-0	5-83-1		11-159-1	
Watson	3-50-0	3-39-0	5-54-0	1-35-0	4-33-0	5-60-0	7-95-1	4-54-0	2-16-0	5-74-1	6-87-1	3-41-0	1-5-0				49-643-3	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Bill Belichick

## New England Patriots

Gillette Stadium, One Patriot Place  
Foxborough, MA 02035  
508/543-8200  
Official Website: www.patriots.com  
Stadium: Gillette Stadium  
Capacity: 68,756  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 12-4; First in AFC East

Chairman and CEO: Robert Kraft

President: Jonathan Kraft

Vice president-player personnel: Scott Pioli

Head coach: Bill Belichick

Assistant coaches: Nick Caserio, wide receivers; Joel Collier, secondary; Ivan Fears, running backs; Pepper Johnson, defensive line; Pete Mangurian, tight ends; Josh McDaniels, offensive coordinator/quarterbacks; Harold Nash, asst. strength and conditioning; Bill O'Brien, offensive assistant; Matt Patricia, linebackers; Dean Pees, defensive coordinator; Dante Scarnecchia, asst. head coach/offensive line; Brad Seely, special teams; Mike Woicik, strength and conditioning.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
WR	<b>MOSS</b>	83 Welker	87 Caldwell	10 Gaffney
OLT	<b>72 LIGHT</b>	65 Britt		
OLG	<b>70 MANKINS</b>	71 Hochstein	74 Yates	64 Mruczkowski
C	<b>67 KOPPEN</b>	71 Hochstein	64 Mruczkowski	
ORG	<b>61 NEAL</b>	71 Hochstein	74 Yates	64 Mruczkowski
ORT	<b>77 KACZUR</b>	68 O'Callaghan	Hilliard*	
TE	<b>84 WATSON</b>	45 Mills		
TE	<b>86 D. THOMAS</b>	88 K. Brady		
WR	<b>18 STALLWORTH</b>	15 Washington	17 C. Jackson	19 Kight
QB	<b>12 T. BRADY</b>	16 Cassel		
RB	<b>39 MARONEY</b>	34 Morris	33 Faulk	44 Evans
DEFENSE				
DLE	<b>94 WARREN</b>	99 Wright	91 Hill	
NT	<b>75 WILFORK</b>	99 Wright	K. Brown*	
DRE	<b>93 SEYMOUR</b>	97 Green	K. Brown*	
LOLB	<b>96 A. THOMAS</b>	50 Vrabel		
LILB	<b>54 BRUSCHI</b>	53 Izzo	52 Alexander	
RILB	<b>50 VRABEL</b>	46 Mays		
ROLB	<b>59 COLVIN</b>	58 Woods		
LCB	<b>27 HOBBS</b>	30 Scott	21 Gay	Richardson*
RCB	<b>22 SAMUEL</b>	28 James	23 Andrews	29 E. Jackson
SS	<b>37 HARRISON</b>	Meriweather*	36 Sanders	
FS	<b>26 WILSON</b>	25 Hawkins	32 Baker	
SPECIALISTS				
P	<b>8 MILLER</b>	1 Malone	5 Baugher	
PK	<b>3 GOSTKOWSKI</b>			
H	<b>16 CASSEL</b>			
PR	<b>83 WELKER</b>	33 Faulk		
KR	<b>27 HOBBS</b>	39 Maroney	83 Welker	
LS	<b>66 PAXTON</b>			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	San Diego	8:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	Buffalo	1 p.m.
Oct. 1	at Cincinnati	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 7	Cleveland	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Dallas	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Miami	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	Washington	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Indianapolis	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 11	BYE	
Nov. 18	at Buffalo	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	Philadelphia	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 3	at Baltimore	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 9	Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	Miami	1 p.m.
Dec. 29	at N.Y. Giants	8:15 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to New England

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Buffalo	(-9.5)	19-17
Sept. 17	at New York Jets	(-6)	24-17
Sept. 24	Denver	(-6.5)	7-17
Oct. 1	At Cincinnati	(+5.5)	38-13
Oct. 8	Miami	(-9)	20-10
Oct. 15	BYE		
Oct. 22	At Buffalo	(-5.5)	28-6
Oct. 30	At Minnesota	(-1.5)	31-7
Nov. 5	Indianapolis	(-3)	20-27
Nov. 12	New York Jets	(-10)	14-17
Nov. 19	At Green Bay	(-5.5)	35-0
Nov. 26	Chicago	(-4.5)	17-13
Dec. 3	Detroit	(-13)	28-21
Dec. 10	At Miami	(-3)	0-21
Dec. 17	Houston	(-12)	40-7
Dec. 24	At Jacksonville	(+3)	24-21
Dec. 31	At Tennessee	(+3.5)	40-23
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 7	N.Y. Jets	(-9.5)	37-16
Jan. 14	At San Diego	(+5)	24-21
Jan. 21	At Indianapolis	(+3.5)	34-38

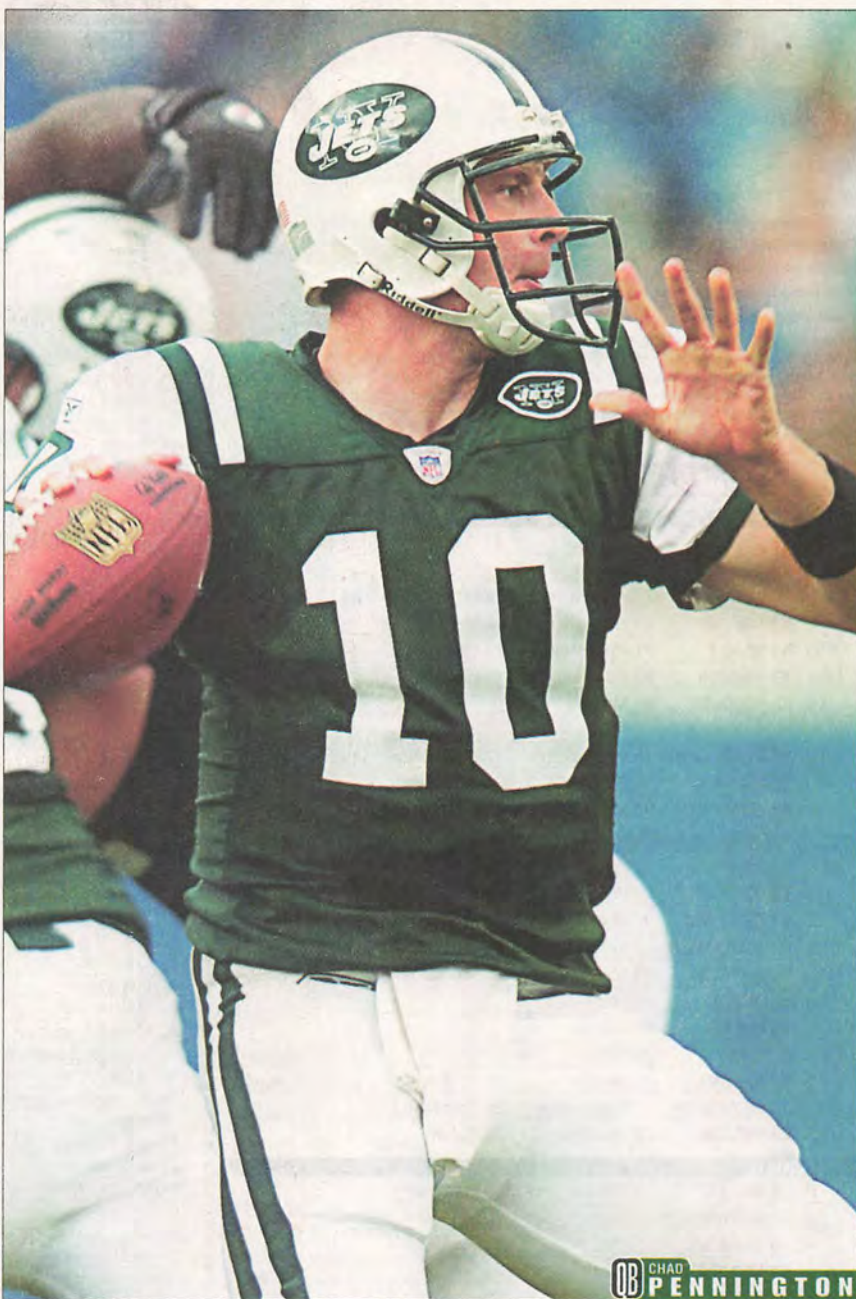
## PATRIOTS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
52	Alexander, Eric	LB	6-2	240	3	LSU	14/0
	Anam, Larry	CB	5-11	190	R	Boston College	
23	Andrews, Willie	DB	5-10	195	2	Baylor	15/0
32	Baker, Rashad	S	5-10	198	4	Tennessee	5/0
62	Barthelme, Brian	C	6-6	300	1	Virginia	0/0
5	Baughner, Danny	P	5-10	194	1	Arizona	0/0
88	Brady, Kyle	TE	6-6	280	13	Penn State	16/14
12	Brady, Tom	QB	6-4	225	8	Michigan	16/16
65	Britt, Wesley	OT	6-8	320	2	Alabama	10/1
	Brown, Kareem	DT	6-4	290	R	Miami (Fla.)	
54	Bruschi, Tedy	LB	6-1	247	12	Arizona	15/14
87	Caldwell, Reche	WR	6-0	210	6	Florida	16/14
	Case, Tony	LS	6-2	285	1	Adams State	0/0
16	Cassel, Matt	QB	6-4	225	3	USC	6/0
13	Childress, Bam	WR	5-10	185	2	Ohio State	2/0
59	Colvin, Rosevelt	LB	6-3	250	9	Purdue	16/15
	Elgin, Mike	OG	6-4	277	R	Iowa	
44	Evans, Heath	FB	6-0	250	7	Auburn	16/3
33	Faulk, Kevin	RB	5-8	202	9	LSU	15/1
10	Gaffney, Jabar	WR	6-1	205	5	Florida	11/6
21	Gay, Randall	CB	5-11	190	4	LSU	3/0
3	Gostkowski, Stephen	PK	6-1	210	2	Memphis	16/0
97	Green, Jarvis	DL	6-3	285	6	LSU	16/4
	Gutierrez, Matt	QB	6-4	227	R	Idaho State	
	Hairston, Justise	RB	6-2	220	R	Central Connecticut St.	
37	Harrison, Rodney	S	6-1	220	14	Western Illinois	10/10
25	Hawkins, Artrell	S	5-10	195	10	Cincinnati	14/12
91	Hill, Marquise	DE	6-6	300	4	LSU	4/0
41	Hill, Quadtrine	RB	6-2	228	1	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
	Hilliard, Corey	OT	6-5	318	R	Oklahoma State	
27	Hobbs, Ellis	CB	5-9	190	3	Iowa State	15/9
71	Hochstein, Russ	OG-C	6-4	305	6	Nebraska	13/0
53	Izzo, Larry	LB	5-10	228	12	Rice	16/0
17	Jackson, Chad	WR	6-1	215	2	Florida	12/1
29	Jackson, Eddie	CB	6-0	200	4	Arkansas	14/2
28	James, Tory	CB	6-2	192	12	LSU	16/16
77	Kaczur, Nick	OT	6-4	315	3	Toledo	11/9
19	Kight, Kelvin	WR	6-0	213	2	Florida	4/1
67	Koppen, Dan	C	6-2	296	5	Boston College	16/16
85	Kranchick, Matt	TE	6-7	260	2	Penn State	0/0
72	Light, Matt	OT	6-4	305	7	Purdue	16/16
	Lua, Oscar	LB	6-0	238	R	USC	
1	Malone, Tom	P	6-0	205	1	USC	0/0
70	Mankins, Logan	OG	6-4	310	3	Fresno State	16/16
39	Maroney, Laurence	RB	5-11	220	2	Minnesota	14/0
46	Mays, Corey	LB	6-1	245	2	Notre Dame	8/0
	Meriweather, Brandon	S	6-0	195	R	Miami (Fla.)	
8	Miller, Josh	P	6-4	225	12	Arizona	10/0
45	Mills, Garrett	FB	6-1	235	2	Tulsa	0/0
24	Mitchell, Mel	S	6-1	225	6	Western Kentucky	0/0
34	Morris, Sammy	FB	6-0	218	8	Texas Tech	12/4
	Moss, Randy	WR	6-4	210	10	Marshall	13/13
64	Mruczkowski, Gene	OG-C	6-2	305	4	Purdue	1/0
61	Neal, Stephen	OG	6-4	305	6	Cal State-Bakersfield	13/13
	Nordin, Jake	TE	6-3	250	R	Northern Illinois	
68	O'Callaghan, Ryan	OT	6-7	330	2	California	11/6
	Oldenburg, Clint	OT	6-5	296	R	Colorado State	
66	Paxton, Lonnie	LS	6-2	260	8	Sacramento State	16/0
	Richardson, Mike	CB	5-11	189	R	Notre Dame	
	Rogers, Justin	LB	6-3	252	R	SMU	
22	Samuel, Asante	CB	5-10	185	5	Central Florida	15/15
36	Sanders, James	S	5-10	210	3	Fresno State	16/5
30	Scott, Chad	CB	6-1	205	11	Maryland	14/9
93	Seymour, Richard	DL	6-6	310	7	Georgia	16/15
81	Smith, Jonathan	WR	5-10	194	3	Georgia Tech	2/0
90	Smith, LeKevin	DL	6-1	308	2	Nebraska	3/0
31	Spann, Antwain	CB	6-0	190	2	Louisiana-Lafayette	8/0
18	Stallworth, Donté	WR	6-0	196	5	Tennessee	12/11
96	Thomas, Adalius	OLB	6-2	270	8	Southern Mississippi	16/16
86	Thomas, David	TE	6-3	248	2	Texas	16/3
92	Thomas, Antonio	DL	6-4	305	1	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
50	Vrabel, Mike	LB	6-4	261	11	Ohio State	16/16
94	Warren, Ty	DL	6-5	300	5	Texas A&M	15/15
15	Washington, Kelley	WR	6-3	218	5	Tennessee	5/1
84	Watson, Benjamin	TE	6-3	255	4	Georgia	13/13
83	Welker, Wes	WR	5-9	185	4	Texas Tech	16/2
75	Wilfork, Vince	DL	6-2	325	4	Miami (Fla.)	13/13
42	Williams, Gemara	CB	5-8	185	2	Buffalo	0/0
26	Wilson, Eugene	DB	5-10	195	5	Illinois	4/4
58	Woods, Pierre	LB	6-5	250	2	Michigan	8/0
99	Wright, Mike	DL	6-4	295	3	Cincinnati	16/3
74	Yates, Billy	OG	6-2	305	4	Texas A&M	4/3



# NEW YORK JETS

HARRY SCULL, JR.



QB CHAD PENNINGTON

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **8-8** 2nd place /  
AFC East

It seems the Jets surprised everyone but themselves with their 10-6 record and postseason berth last season.

Most league observers predicted doom and gloom for the franchise in the first year of the young leadership duo of head coach Eric Mangini and GM Mike Tannenbaum. But the healthy return of QB Chad Pennington and a proven Patriots-style system helped the Jets improve by six games

over their 4-12 mark in 2005.

Obviously, the Jets won't be able to make as big a jump in '07. But, with the presence of a proven running back in Thomas Jones added to an offense that struggled to adequately replace the injured Curtis Martin last season, the Jets should be able to generate more scoring this season.

The team still has some question marks defensively and on the right side of the offensive line, and the schedule promises to be a bit tougher, but the Jets have the pieces in place to contend for another playoff berth.

## Offense

Offensive coordinator Brian Schottenheimer's scheme features many attributes of a West Coast attack, likely due to the lack of arm strength of QB Chad Pennington. With the addition of RB Thomas Jones, Schottenheimer has a proven back who can grind out tough yards and also has home-run potential. It's a control-based scheme with lots of dinks and dumps out of the backfield to Jones and Leon Washington with lots of motion and no-huddle and a good amount of shotgun, something that Pennington prefers. The Jets like to use a two-TE approach, particularly in short-yardage situations, but WR Brad Smith also fills a utility role, lining up in the slot or in the backfield, making him someone opposing



defenses must account for.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Chad Pennington deservedly earned Comeback Player of the Year honors from multiple media outlets last season after playing all 16 games for the first time in his career, completing 64.5 percent of his passes and leading the Jets to 10 wins and a playoff berth. He is smart and savvy and manages the game well. Following multiple surgeries on his throwing shoulder, his arm strength is limited, but he executes the team's short-passing, ball-control offense expertly. Kellen Clemens will take over the primary backup spot behind Pennington with ex-Raider Marques Tuiasosopo filling the veteran No. 3 role. Like Pennington, Clemens doesn't have the strongest arm and works best in a West Coast attack. If needed, Tuiasosopo can be counted on to use his six years of NFL experience (only two starts, however) to serve as a competent backup.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ The inability of future Hall of Famer Curtis Martin to come back from a chronic knee injury was a setback to the Jets' running attack last season. The team's decision to use a committee approach to make up for Martin's workhorse rushing output failed to generate much of a ground attack, as the team finished 30th in the league in average gain per rush with 3.5 yards per carry. The trade addition of ex-49er Kevan Barlow didn't pan out, and the Jets' most consistent performers were youngsters Leon Washington and Cedric Houston. While the Jets like both backs, they knew they had to upgrade the position. They did so by trading for disgruntled Bears RB Thomas Jones, a 1,210-yard rusher in 2006. To say that Jones should give the Jets' running game a big lift is an understatement. Jones is tough, very competitive and runs patiently with good vision. He brings leadership to the locker room but is getting up in age, turning 29 in August. The undersized Washington is quicker than fast, tough enough to run inside but also is a threat as a receiver. He is dangerous in space. Houston is more of a physical, between-the-tackles back who will likely serve as a change-of-pace for Jones and Washington. The team signed ex-Dolphins FB Darian Barnes, a punishing, straight-line blocker, to pave the way in the running game.

**RECEIVERS** ■ The emergence last season of Jericho Cotchery gave the Jets' WR corps a much-needed additional playmaker, taking pressure off No. 1 WR Laveranues Coles. Cotchery's breakout season (82-961-6) netted him a lucrative five-year contract extension. He's smart, has good size, is a good route runner and has outstanding hands. He's quicker than fast, and his savvy makes up for a lack of blazing speed. Coles, who remains Pennington's favorite receiver, is as tough as they come, battling through a myriad of injuries to collect a career-best 91 catches. He plays physical



**DE KENYON COLEMAN**  
After five seasons as an NFL backup, Coleman is being counted on to bolster a pass rush that was virtually non-existent in 2006.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
**ORT:**  
**THREE-WAY COMPETITION**  
Incumbent Anthony Clement will try to hold off Adrian Jones, an ex-starter, and Wade Smith as the Jets look for an upgrade.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
FB Darian Barnes, DE David Bowens, DE Kenyon Coleman, DE Michael Haynes, RB Thomas Jones, QB Marques Tuiasosopo.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
FB B.J. Askew, RB Kevan Barlow, RB Derrick Baylock, QB Patrick Ramsey, OL Trey Teague.

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Darrelle Revis	CB	Pittsburgh	14
2	David Harris	LB	Michigan	47
6	Jacob Bender	OT	Nicholls State	177
7	Chansi Stuckey	WR	Clemson	235



and isn't afraid to go over the middle. However, he is still too inconsistent, with sporadic production. Justin McCareins has good size and is a deep threat. Brad Smith is the team's X-factor, a design-play receiver more than an every-down threat. He can run, catch or pass and is a threat on reverses, option passes and screens, where he can create in space. TE Chris Baker is a decent blocker and has the athletic ability to stretch the field as a receiver. However, his hands are inconsistent. TE Sean Ryan started three games last season and is a trusted in-line blocker who helps the running game.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Due to inexperience up front last season, Brian Schottenheimer had the O-line zone-block more than he would like, with guards and the center helping out the tackles, not the other way around. They hope that changes in 2007. Last year's rookies, OLT D'Brickashaw Ferguson and C Nick Mangold, started from Day One and performed well, with OLG Pete Kendall forming an experienced bridge between them. Ferguson is smart, hardworking, has long arms and quick feet but is light in the base and strug-

gled against power rushers. He gave up 10 sacks as a rookie and must improve his strength and ability to anchor. Kendall, who turns 34 in July and could be a salary-cap casualty, is limited athletically, and his durability could be an issue, but he provides leadership and experience. Mangold was a revelation as a rookie, taking charge of the line and adeptly making all the line calls. He possesses outstanding size, quickness, intelligence and athletic ability. ORG Brandon Moore is a smart, solid starter who gets the job done but isn't overly athletic. The ORT spot will be up for grabs with incumbent Anthony Clement, a limited vet, trying to hold off ex-starter Adrian Jones, an athletic player who has had off-field issues and lacks toughness, and Wade Smith, a versatile veteran who once started at left tackle for the Dolphins. Sixth-round selection Jacob Bender is a developmental prospect from a small school who has raw NFL-type talent.

## Defense

Coach Eric Mangini brought along his preference for a base 3-4 scheme that mixes in 4-3 looks. Defensive coordinator Bob Sutton likes to apply pressure with the blitz, and particularly likes to safety blitz with Kerry Rhodes. The defense is not only assignment-based, which limits the inside linebacker's freedom, but it is speed-based. ILB Jonathan Vilma and NT Dewayne Robertson are both undersized for the scheme, and the D-line lacks beef. OLBs Bryan Thomas and Victor Hobson have thrived in this scheme with much directed their way. The CB position is an area of concern, with serviceable players but no true shutdown corner.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ This is a position that is still in transition as the Jets try to find big two-gappers who can help them stop the run better after ranking 24th against the run and 27th in average gain per rush. Veteran 3-4 DE Kimo von Oelhoffen was a disappointment last season, struggling to get off blocks and lacking versatility and change of direction as he nears the end of his career. DE Shaun Ellis can play the run and pass and boasts good strength and pass-rush ability. However, he sometimes vanishes during games. Free-agent addition Kenyon Coleman is a disciplined, consistent player who has experience in the 3-4 from his time in Dallas. He's not a pure athlete, is a little stiff and is not much of a pass rusher, but he is a solid block eater. DE David Bowens came over from Miami via free agency. He's a good athlete and a high-effort guy who provides some pass rush and does a great job on special teams. Inside, undersized Dewayne Robertson got better as last season wore on. He's strong, quick, has a quick swim move, good lower-leg strength and can be disruptive. However, he can get engulfed at times and plays upright with inconsistent leverage. He's a better move rusher, not a bull rusher. NT Sione Pouha returns after missing last sea-



son with a knee injury. He's got the size and strength to be a solid run staffer.

**LINEBACKERS** • The Jets' scheme funnels playmaking opportunities to rush linebackers Bryan Thomas and Victor Hobson, and the pair more often than not is up to the challenge. Thomas can play both sides, has adequate quickness and nice range and boasts a power pass rush. He has gotten stronger over the years, which helps him play the run better. However, he can struggle to get off blocks, is limited changing direction and shows inconsistent recognition. Hobson is competitive, fairly instinctive and capable of making plays in space, but he can struggle to get off blocks and is best in short areas. Although undersized, ILB Jonathan Vilma can run well and is a smart, instinctive player. The key is for the big boys up front to keep him clean and clear. If he has room to roam and use his athletic ability, he's very good. If he's in tight quarters and fending off blockers, he gets engulfed, velcroed and eliminated. The team traded up in the second round of the draft to

select ILB David Harris, who they believe will be able to contribute right away. Harris is strong, tough, active, aggressive and possesses the instincts Eric Mangini desires for his 3-4 scheme. Veteran ILB Eric Barton boasts more size than Vilma but is not as athletic. Barton has good speed and instincts, but is getting older and could wind up a salary-cap casualty. Anthony Schlegel is stiff, lacks athletic ability and quickness

and is just a marginal backup at best. Brad Kassell and Matt Chatham are effort guys who are tough and dependable.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • The young safety duo of Kerry Rhodes and Erik Coleman returns to head up a secondary that has room for improvement. Many observers around the league believed Rhodes deserved a Pro Bowl bid last season after registering five sacks and four interceptions. He's better as a short-area, man-coverage guy and is a skilled blitzer. He is willing to tackle but is not physical in coverage, is inconsistent playing the ball and his awareness is questionable. Erik Coleman can read and diagnose and is a good wrap tackler. However, he does not have great range. Andre Dyson is the team's top corner. He's an athletic, instinctive ballhawk with fine catch-up speed. However, his lack of size, strength and durability are concerns. Rookie Darrelle Revis is a physical, instinctive corner who is excellent in run support and has the size and toughness the Jets desire. He also could serve as the punt returner, showing

the ability to create in college. CB Justin Miller has the ability to be a starter, but his inconsistency has limited his playing time, and he can give up big plays. He has the size, strength and speed to play over the slot in nickel situations. Hank Poteat is a smart, versatile veteran who knows the system, but he is limited and not a long-term answer. Drew Coleman has good straight-line speed, quickness and athleticism. However,

he's undersized, is slow to read and react, struggles to get off blocks and hesitates on his plant and step.

## Special teams

Like his mentor, Bill Belichick, Eric Mangini places a great emphasis on special-teams play and isn't afraid to use starters on the return and coverage units. The Jets' kicking game is solid with PK Mike Nugent starting to show why he was so highly regarded coming out of college and P Ben Graham using his big leg and oddly spinning kicks to his advantage. KR Justin Miller earned a Pro Bowl bid after returning two kickoffs for touchdowns and leading the NFL with 28.3 yards per return. His explosiveness and big-play ability make him a threat each time he touches the ball. Led by ace special-teams coach Mike Westhoff, the team ranked in the top third in the league in opponents punt-return and kick-return average.

## Summary

Eric Mangini promised another brutally tough training camp following the team's season-ending playoff loss to New England, as he weeds out the players who aren't committed to his program or capable of playing the game the way he wants. The offense seemingly has more scoring potential, and the defenders have a year's experience under their belts to grasp Mangini's complex scheme, which should make them more cohesive and stout. It won't be a surprise if the Jets drop back a bit, but as long as Chad Pennington stays healthy, the Jets should be in the postseason mix in the rugged AFC.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	@ TB	@ NE	@ BUF	@ IND	@ JAX	@ MIA	@ DET	@ CLE	@ M L	@ CHI	@ HOU	@ GB	@ BUF	@ MIN	@ MIA	@ OAK		
Score	23-16	17-24	28-20	28-31	0-41	20-17	31-24	13-20	17-14	0-10	26-11	38-10	13-31	26-13	13-10	23-3		
Total net yards	393	338	256	321	177	272	398	193	278	264	304	441	275	391	324	266	4891	
Rushing yards	91	52	74	135	132	103	221	88	117	108	27	178	132	68	95	117	1738	
Passing yards	302	286	182	186	45	169	177	105	161	156	277	263	143	323	229	149	3153	
Rushing plays	34	24	24	37	34	27	42	27	29	30	26	31	30	29	30	37	491	
Sacks allowed	2	4	1	3	6	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	5	2	1	34	
Had intercepted	0	1	0	1	3	0	1	2	1	2	0	2	2	1	0	0	16	
Fumbles lost	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	9	
Yards penalized	53	48	52	47	59	70	20	5	28	40	5	20	15	55	12	31	560	
Punts	4	5	7	3	6	7	2	3	5	7	4	4	1	5	3	8	4	74

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Time of poss.***	25:58	30:16	33:13	28:03	32:02	31:44	25:46	35:11	29:26	28:06	30:51	28:33	27:52	23:34	29:28	23:11	28:57	
Total net yards	328	358	475	352	312	395	386	267	377	284	334	351	318	307	253	209	5306	
Rushing yards	86	147	169	160	181	129	125	147	145	173	25	149	174	62	124	88	2084	
Passing yards	242	211	306	192	131	266	261	120	232	111	309	202	144	245	129	121	3222	
Rushing plays	25	39	31	36	39	29	22	39	26	35	14	23	34	15	24	22	453	
Sacks allowed	2	1	3	2	1	0	1	3	4	1	4	2	3	3	3	2	35	
Had intercepted	3	1	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	1	16	
Fumbles lost	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	9	
Yards penalized	70	64	43	64	82	61	60	42	30	65	77	29	10	56	78	32	843	
Punts	6	3	2	4	4	3	2	5	4	8	5	2	6	7	10	3	74	

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

RUSHING																		
Barlow	11-35-1	14-42-0	12-31-1	13-35-2	4-(-1)-0	13-45-0	12-49-1	5-16-0	17-75-1	4-2-0	8-5-0					18-36-0		131-370-6
Blaylock	19-36-0	6-8-0																25-44-0
Houston			2-10-1	12-49-0						11-50-0	11-13-1	22-105-2	18-50-0	21-53-1		16-44-0		113-374-5
Pennington	2-7-0	2-2-0	3-8-0	1-5-0	2-17-0	1-(-1)-0	5-2-0	3-9-0	2-4-0		1-2-0	3-17-0	3-11-0	4-26-0		3-0-0		35-109-0
B. Smith	2-13-0			1-8-0	2-8-0	1-1-0	3-16-0	3-4-0		1-6-0	1-(-10)-0	1-32-0	1-2-0			2-23-0		18-103-0
L. Washington		1-0-0	7-25-0	9-33-0	23-101-0	11-58-0	20-129-2	15-51-0	9-35-0	13-22-0	5-17-0	7-40-1	7-55-0	3-5-0	6-26-0	15-53-1		151-650-4
PASSING **																		
Pennington	24-33-0	22-37-1	19-29-0	17-23-1	10-17-3	17-29-0	16-22-1	11-28-2	22-33-1	19-35-2	24-31-0	25-35-2	22-35-2	29-39-1	14-29-0	22-30-0		313-485-16
	319-2	306-2	183-1	207-1	71-0	175-2	189-1	108-0	168-1	162-0	286-1	263-2	182-1	339-1	237-1	157-1		3352-17
RECEIVING																		
Askew						1-12-0			2-9-0					3-15-0		3-14-0		9-50-0
Baker	4-34-1	1-5-0		1-6-0		4-39-0	1-16-0	1-17-0	1-7-0	1-3-0	1-28-0	4-50-1	2-17-0	4-33-0	1-11-0	2-19-1		31-300-4
Barlow		1-4-0			1-(-1)-0	3-3-0		1-8-0	1-7-0									7-21-0
Blaylock	2-10-0	3-19-0																5-29-0
Coles	8-153-0	6-100-1	10-78-0	6-81-0	3-19-0	5-106-2	4-29-0	4-40-0	5-29-0	8-80-0	9-111-1	3-28-0	4-67-1	12-144-1	2-9-0	2-24-0		91-1098-6
Cotchery	6-65-1	6-121-1	3-33-0	3-65-1	4-49-0	1-6-0	7-79-0	5-43-0	6-70-1	3-25-0	7-110-0	9-99-1	5-37-0	6-56-0	4-50-1	7-53-0		82-961-6
Dwight			1-5-0	3-31-0		3-9-0	1-4-0		2-14-0	5-40-0	1-9-0							16-112-0
Houston				1-5-0							1-5-0	3-24-0	1-7-0	1-2-0				7-43-0
McCareins	2-34-0	4-51-0		0-2-0			1-44-1		3-31-0		2-10-0	1-17-0	1-14-0	2-70-0	2-47-0	5-27-0		23-347-1
Ryan	1-10-0	1-6-0		1-6-0			1-9-0					1-5-0	1-8-0					6-44-0
B. Smith	1-13-0			1-(-4)-0	1-(-4)-0					1-7-0		2-14-0	1-4-0	1-19-0	1-12-0			9-61-0
L. Washington			2-52-0	1-8-0	1-8-0		1-8-0		2-1-0	1-7-0	2-7-0	2-26-0	7-28-0		4-108-0	2-17-0		25-270-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.



**New York Jets**

1000 Fulton Avenue  
Hempstead, NY 11550  
516/560-8100  
Official Website: [www.newyorkjets.com](http://www.newyorkjets.com)  
Stadium: Meadowlands  
Capacity: 79,466  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 10-6; Second in AFC East

Eric Mangini

**Chairman and CEO:** Woody Johnson; **President:** Jay Cross; **GM:** Mike Tannenbaum  
**Head coach:** Eric Mangini

**Assistant coaches:** Sal Alosi, *strength and conditioning*; Mike Bloomgren, *quality control, offense*; Bryan Cox, *asst. defensive line*; Brian Daboll, *quarterbacks*; Mike Devlin, *tight ends/asst. offensive line*; Andy Dickerson, *defensive quality control*; Jerome Henderson, *asst. secondary*; Jim Herrmann, *linebackers*; Mike Jones, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Ben Kotwica, *quality control, special teams and defense*; Rick Lyle, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Mike MacIntyre, *defensive backs*; Denny Marcin, *defensive assistant*; Noel Mazzone, *wide receivers*; Jason Michael, *offensive quality control*; Dan Quinn, *defensive line*; Jimmy Raye, *running backs*; Brian Schottenheimer, *offensive coordinator*; Brian Smith, *quality control, offense*; Bob Sutton, *defensive coordinator*; Mike Westhoff, *special-teams coordinator*; Tony Wise, *offensive line*.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART**

OFFENSE			
WR	<b>87 COLES</b>	16 B. Smith	15 Wright 18 Jackson
OLT	<b>80 FERGUSON</b>	79 A. Jones	76 Goddard 72 Bender*
OLG	<b>86 KENDALL</b>	71 W. Smith	
C	<b>74 MANGOLD</b>	71 W. Smith	
ORG	<b>65 MOORE</b>	61 Clarke	
ORT	<b>68 CLEMENT</b>	79 A. Jones	71 W. Smith 78 Blanton
TE	<b>86 BAKER</b>	88 Ryan	82 Pociask
WR	<b>89 COTCHERY</b>	81 McCareins	17 Dwight 83 Stuckey*
QB	<b>10 PERRINGTON</b>	11 Clemens	8 Tuiasosopo
RB	<b>20 T. JONES</b>	29 L. Washington	32 Houston
FB	<b>37 BARNES</b>	45 Tutt	
DEFENSE			
DLE	<b>92 ELLIS</b>	96 Bowens	98 Hamilton 97 Adams
NT	<b>63 ROBERTSON</b>	91 Pouha	95 Mosley 77 Marshall
DRE	<b>93 K. COLEMAN</b>	67 von Oelhoffen	94 Haynes 57 Wadsworth
LILB	<b>54 HOBSON</b>	58 Chatham	
LILB	<b>52 HARRIS*</b>	50 Barton	53 Spencer
RILB	<b>51 VILMA</b>	55 Kassell	56 Schlegel
ROLB	<b>99 THOMAS</b>	58 Chatham	
LCB	<b>21 DYSON</b>	31 Poteat	30 D. Coleman
RCB	<b>24 REVIS*</b>	22 Miller	36 Barrett
SS	<b>25 RHODES</b>	42 R. Washington	38 Thompson
FS	<b>26 E. COLEMAN</b>	33 E. Smith	41 Ventrone
SPECIALISTS			
P	<b>7 GRAHAM</b>		
PK	<b>1 NUGENT</b>		
H	<b>7 GRAHAM</b>		
PR	<b>29 L. WASHINGTON</b>	24 Revis*	89 Cotchery
KR	<b>22 MILLER</b>	29 L. Washington	17 Dwight 89 Cotchery
LS	<b>85 DEARTH</b>		

\* Rookie

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	New England	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Baltimore	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	Miami	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Buffalo	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	at N.Y. Giants	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Cincinnati	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 28	Buffalo	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 4	Washington	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	BYE	
Nov. 18	Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Nov. 22	at Dallas	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Miami	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	Cleveland	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 16	at New England	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Tennessee	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	Kansas City	8:15 p.m.*

\* — Game time subject to change

**2006 RESULTS**

Points spread refers to New York Jets

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Tennessee	(+3)	23-16
Sept. 17	New England	(+6)	17-24
Sept. 24	At Buffalo	(+5.5)	28-20
Oct. 1	Indianapolis	(+7.5)	28-31
Oct. 8	At Jacksonville	(+7)	0-41
Oct. 15	Miami	(-2)	20-17
Oct. 22	Detroit	(-4)	31-24
Oct. 29	At Cleveland	(+1.5)	13-20
Nov. 5	BYE		
Nov. 12	At New England	(+10)	17-14
Nov. 19	Chicago	(+5.5)	0-10
Nov. 26	Houston	(-4.5)	26-11
Dec. 3	At Green Bay	(+1)	38-10
Dec. 10	Buffalo	(-5)	13-31
Dec. 17	At Minnesota	(+3.5)	26-13
Dec. 25	At Miami	(+2.5)	13-10
Dec. 31	Oakland	(-10)	23-3
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 7	At New England	(+9.5)	16-37

**JETS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
97	Adams, Darrell	DE	6-5	282	1	Villanova	0/0
86	Baker, Chris	TE	6-3	258	6	Michigan State	16/14
37	Barnes, Darian	FB	6-2	240	6	Hampton	16/6
36	Barrett, David	CB	5-10	195	8	Arkansas	13/3
50	Barton, Eric	LB	6-2	245	9	Maryland	16/15
72	Bender, Jacob	OL	6-6	315	R	Nicholls State	
78	Blanton, Ed	OT	6-9	330	1	UCLA	0/0
96	Bowens, David	DE	6-3	265	9	Western Illinois	16/0
58	Chatham, Matt	LB	6-4	250	8	South Dakota	16/0
61	Clarke, Adrien	OG	6-5	330	2	Ohio State	0/0
11	Clemens, Kellen	QB	6-2	223	2	Oregon	2/0
68	Clement, Anthony	OT	6-8	320	10	Louisiana-Lafayette	16/16
30	Coleman, Drew	CB	5-9	175	2	TCU	16/4
26	Coleman, Erik	S	5-10	200	4	Washington State	16/13
93	Coleman, Kenyon	DE	6-5	295	5	UCLA	16/0
87	Coles, Laveranues	WR	5-11	193	8	Florida State	16/16
47	Costanzo, Blake	LB	6-2	235	1	Lafayette	0/0
89	Cotchery, Jerricho	WR-KR	6-0	207	4	North Carolina State	16/16
85	DeVito, Mike	TE-LS	6-4	270	7	Tarleton State	16/0
17	Dwight, Tim	WR-KR	5-8	180	10	Iowa	9/2
21	Dyson, Andre	CB	5-10	183	7	Utah	15/15
92	Ellis, Shaun	DE	6-5	285	8	Tennessee	16/16
60	Ferguson, D'Brickashaw	OT	6-6	312	2	Virginia	16/16
75	Fitch, Zarnell	DT	6-3	320	1	TCU	0/0
76	Goddard, Na'Shan	OL	6-5	315	2	South Carolina	0/0
7	Graham, Ben	P	6-5	220	3	Deakin (Australia)	16/0
98	Hamilton, Bobby	DE	6-5	285	13	Southern Mississippi	16/1
52	Harris, David	LB	6-2	243	R	Michigan	
94	Haynes, Michael	DE	6-4	283	4	Penn State	0/0
54	Hobson, Victor	LB	6-0	252	5	Michigan	16/16
27	Hodge, Alphonso	CB	5-10	203	1	Miami (Ohio)	0/0
32	Houston, Cedric	RB	6-0	220	3	Tennessee	8/1
18	Jackson, Frisman	WR	6-3	217	5	Western Illinois	0/0
79	Jones, Adrian	OT	6-5	296	4	Kansas	9/0
20	Jones, Thomas	RB	5-10	215	8	Virginia	16/16
55	Kassell, Brad	LB	6-3	242	6	North Texas	16/1
66	Kendall, Pete	OG	6-5	292	12	Boston College	14/14
	King, Matt	DE	6-3	242	R	Maine	
40	Kowalewski, Joe	TE	6-4	250	1	Syracuse	0/0
74	Mangold, Nick	C	6-4	300	2	Ohio State	16/16
77	Marshall, Keyonta	DT	6-1	325	1	Grand Valley State	0/0
28	Martin, Curtis	RB	5-11	210	13	Pittsburgh	0/0
81	McCareins, Justin	WR	6-2	215	7	Northern Illinois	16/7
62	McChesney, Matt	DT	6-4	307	2	Colorado	0/0
	McCullough, Kevin	LB	6-2	240	R	Cincinnati	
22	Miller, Justin	CB-KR	5-10	196	3	Clemson	16/4
65	Moore, Brandon	OG	6-3	295	5	Illinois	16/16
	Moran, Dominic	OL	6-4	300	R	Western Michigan	
95	Mosley, C.J.	DT	6-2	312	3	Missouri	6/0
1	Nugent, Mike	PK	5-9	182	3	Ohio State	16/0
	Osborn, Dustin	WR	6-0	194	R	Colorado State	
10	Perrington, Chad	QB	6-3	225	8	Marshall	16/16
	Peters, Leonard	S	6-1	210	R	Hawaii	
82	Pociask, Jason	TE	6-2	259	2	Wisconsin	0/0
31	Poteat, Hank	CB	5-10	195	7	Pittsburgh	11/6
91	Pouha, Stone	DT	6-3	325	3	Utah	0/0
	Ratliff, Brett	QB	6-3	220	R	Utah	
24	Revis, Darrelle	DB-PR	5-11	204	R	Pittsburgh	
25	Rhodes, Kerry	S	6-3	210	3	Louisville	16/16
63	Robertson, Dewayne	DT	6-1	317	5	Kentucky	16/16
88	Ryan, Sean	TE	6-5	265	4	Boston College	16/3
56	Schlegel, Anthony	LB	6-1	251	2	Ohio State	4/0
16	Smith, Brad	WR-QB-RB	6-2	210	2	Missouri	16/3
33	Smith, Eric	S	6-1	209	2	Michigan State	15/0
71	Smith, Wade	OL	6-4	318	5	Memphis	9/0
	Steffes, Kyle	RB	5-11	209	R	North Dakota State	
53	Spencer, Cody	LB	6-2	245	4	North Texas	12/0
83	Stuckey, Chansi	WR	6-0	185	R	Clemson	
99	Thomas, Bryan	DE-LB	6-4	266	6	Alabama-Birmingham	16/16
38	Thompson, Jamie	S	6-0	192	1	Oklahoma State	3/0
8	Tuiasosopo, Marques	QB	6-1	220	7	Washington	2/0
45	Tutt, Stacy	FB	6-1	233	1	Richmond	2/0
41	Ventrone, Raymond	S	5-10	200	2	Villanova	0/0
51	Vilma, Jonathan	LB	6-1	230	4	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
67	von Oelhoffen, Kimo	DL	6-4	299	14	Boise State	16/16
57	Wadsworth, Andre	LB	6-4	272	4	Florida State	0/0
29	Washington, Leon	RB-KR	5-8	202	2	Florida State	16/8
42	Washington, Rashad	S	6-1	217	4	Kansas State	16/0
	Wicker, Andrew	OT	6-4	295	R	Mississippi	
15	Wright, Wallace	WR	6-0	191	2	North Carolina	5/0
	Zalewski, Mark	LB	6-2	232	R	Wisconsin	



# BUFFALO BILLS

HARRY SCULL JR.



WR J.P. LOSMAN

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **7-9** 3rd place /  
AFC East

The Bills' transition to youth continued in the offseason, as they waved goodbye to veterans like CB Nate Clements, LB London Fletcher and RB Willis McGahee, among others.

Head coach Dick Jauron proved in his first season in Buffalo that he is adept at relating to the young corps of self-motivated, high-character players that GM Marv Levy has supplied. The Bills started five rookies by sea-

son's end, including both safeties.

Jauron also directed the Bills into playoff contention with a solid second half of the season, turning around a 2-5 start into a 7-9 finish.

The Bills must find more playmakers on both sides of the ball, but the coaching staff remains committed to the rebuilding project that began a year ago.

## Offense

The Bills like to use a more traditional attack that leans toward a power-running identity with the use of frequent double-TE sets. Though RB Willis McGahee and FB

Daimon Shelton have departed, the additions of massive free-agent offensive linemen Derrick Dockery and Langston Walker and rookie RBs Marshawn Lynch and Dwayne Wright are expected to help the Bills better achieve that offensive identity. That being said, as offensive coordinator Steve Fairchild's confidence in QB J.P. Losman grows, it won't be a surprise to see the passing game take more shots downfield. After finishing 30th in total offense in '06, there is lots of room for improvement.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ In his first full season as a starter, J.P. Losman made positive strides, showing signs to management, the new coaching staff and his teammates that he has what it takes to be the franchise's starting quarterback. Losman impressed



personnel people around the league with his maturation, most notably in not making as many negative plays, managing the game better and making more big plays. He completed 62.5 percent of his passes, had a passer rating of 84.9 and had more TD passes than interceptions (19-14). He also led the team to last-minute wins over Houston and Jacksonville, further bolstering his confidence and the team's confidence in him. His maturity level needs to improve this season to take him to the next level.

The Bills like Craig Nall's strong arm and upside as Losman's top backup, and added future value in third-rounder Trent Edwards, who has the ability, if he can stay healthy, to become a very good pro.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ The Bills decided to go in a different direction in 2007, cutting ties with Willis McGahee by trading him to the Ravens. His disenchantment with playing in Buffalo and failure to carry the offense consistently contributed to the Bills' decision to let him go. In his place, the team turns to rookie first-rounder Marshawn Lynch and veteran back Anthony Thomas, a reclamation project who likes playing for Dick Jauron and performed well when given the opportunity. When healthy, Lynch is a complete back who can run, catch and block. However, he could be a bit of a risk with what has been diagnosed as a congenital disc abnormality in his lower back. Thomas is a tough, hard-nosed straight-line runner. He's not fast or flashy, but he can still be effective running north and south, as he showed in three midseason games when McGahee was sidelined, gaining 260 yards over that span. Adding depth are fourth-rounder Dwayne Wright and scat-back Shaud Williams.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Lee Evans stepped into the No. 1 WR spot following Eric Moulds' departure and proved without a shadow of a doubt that he can thrive in that role, having a career season. He's a very fast, sure-handed playmaker adept at highpointing the ball, tracking it over his shoulder and making acrobatic grabs. Playing in a small market, he does not get the credit he deserves. Behind Evans, the Bills boast good depth but lack a true No. 2 wideout to draw defensive attention away from Evans. Veteran Peerless Price made more plays than he did in a failed stint in Dallas, but he no longer has the explosiveness he once had and does not have great separation skills. Josh Reed caught the ball more consistently in '06 and is pretty good running after the catch. However, he lacks great speed. Diminutive

Roscoe Parrish has big-time speed, is dangerous in the middle of the field and catching the ball on the move, particularly slants. Defenses must account for him because of his home-run ability. The TE position lacks a downfield receiving threat and, as a result, the Bills rarely threw to the position, with four tight ends combining for 31 total catches in '06. Robert Royal is an adequate receiver, but he doesn't scare opposing

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
WR **LEE EVANS**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DE **AARON SCHOBEL**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
OLT **JASON PETERS**

Big things are expected of Peters in his first full season at left tackle. He has rare athletic ability and could be a future All-Pro.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
ORG:  
**THREE-WAY COMPETITION**

Duke Preston finished last season as the starter, but he'll be challenged by free-agent signee Jason Whittle and young Brad Butler.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

OG Derrick Dockery, DT Darwin Walker, OT Langston Walker, OG Jason Whittle.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

CB Nate Clements, S Matt Bowen, MLB London Fletcher, QB Kelly Holcomb, RB Willis McGahee, OG Tutan Reyes, OLB Takeo Spikes, OG Chris Villarrial.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Marshawn Lynch	RB	California	12
2	Paul Posluszny	LB	Penn State	34
3	Trent Edwards	QB	Stanford	92
4	Dwayne Wright	RB	Fresno State	111
6	John Wendling	S	Wyoming	184
7	Derek Schouman	FB-TE	Boise State	222
7	C.J. Ah You	DE	Oklahoma	239



defenses. He is best as a blocker. Kevin Everett, a third-round pick in '05 with big-time speed and skillets for hands, has struggled to stay healthy and has failed to make much of an impact. This is a make-or-break year for him. Brad Cieslak and Ryan Neufeld add depth.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ This has been an area of need for several years, and the Bills finally addressed the O-line with a vengeance early in free agency, signing three veteran linemen in an attempt to bolster a unit that ranked 30th in percentage of QB sacks allowed (Losman was dropped 47 times), 28th in average gain per rush, 31st in third-down efficiency and dead last in first downs per game. The team believes that its left side of the line is set, with OLT Jason Peters and OLG Derrick Dockery. C Melvin Fowler holds things together in the middle. The right side is a work in progress, with incumbent ORG Duke Preston having to fend off veteran Jason Whittle and youngster Brad Butler, and underachieving

Langston Walker trying to nail down the ORT spot. Peters, a converted college tight end who played left tackle for the first time last season, boasts a terrific blend of size, athletic ability and strength. He moved over from the right side to the left side during the team's bye week in late October, and excelled in his new position over the final nine games of the season, allowing only two sacks all year. The Bills remain excited about this raw prospect's upside. The Bills overpaid to bring in Dockery, a good but not great player who was inconsistent during his first four seasons in Washington. Dockery is a road-grader, but he's not a great finisher, gets beat at the edge and doesn't always play with urgency. He's fairly athletic for his size (6-6, 345) and is powerful, but he is better as a run blocker than a pass protector. Fowler has decent size and is athletic and took command of the pivot position on the Bills' line last season in his first year with the team. Preston is likely the best option at right guard. He's younger and more athletic than Whittle, a journeyman backup. Butler, a tough college right tackle, lacks natural girth for the inside and is still raw. Walker has everything a team could want in a right tackle, with good size, athleticism and long arms. However, he plays soft and struggled mightily in pass protection in Oakland last season. Terrance Pennington, who started nine games as a rookie at the ORT spot, adds quality depth.

## Defense

It's Buffalo's version of the Tampa-2. There's an emphasis on quick, undersized linemen and speedy linebackers. Coordinator Perry Fewell, who spent a year in Chicago before coming to the Bills last season, is a disciple of Lovie Smith. Because of the attack mentality, defensive backs need to be skilled in single coverage. The scheme is relatively simple and easy to learn, which allows young players to step in and contribute right away. That helps explain why the Bills didn't miss a beat with four rookie starters on defense for much of last season.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The Bills utilize a group of undersized, one-gap players who use their quickness, athleticism and effort to get upfield and put pressure on opposing backfields. The downside is a lack of size and mass which leaves the team vulnerable vs. the run — the Bills ranked 28th in opposing rushing yards per game and 29th in average gain per rush last season. The DE rotation is a solid one, with Pro Bowler Aaron Schobel (14 sacks in '06) leading the way. Schobel is one of the league's top pass rushers thanks to his high motor and relentlessness. He can play the run, but he struggles vs. bigger blockers. The Bills paid handsomely to retain Chris Kelsay. He shares time with Ryan Denney at left end, with the tandem combining for 11½ sacks a year ago. Both players are hardworking, high-effort upfield rushers who fit the scheme well. Kelsay has more juice off the edge, while Denney is more stout vs. the run. The



Bills also like DE Tony Hargrove, who has pass-rush ability when he is focused. The DT rotation must do a better job of stuffing the run. Larry Tripplett was a disappointment after signing for big bucks as a free agent last offseason. He struggles to hold the point and plays better on the move. Veteran Darwin Walker was acquired from the Eagles via trade. He's a good interior pass rusher with good initial quickness. He also is durable, missing only three games the past five seasons. He flashes big-play ability at times but also goes long stretches without being heard from. Most solid technicians can neutralize him. Kyle Williams, a fifth-round draft pick in '06, plays hard and gives maximum effort. He was a pleasant surprise as a rookie, starting 11 games after beating out Tim Anderson, who adds depth to the DT rotation. John McCargo returns from an injury-shortened rookie season, and the team hopes he will establish himself as a Tommie Harris type of player.

**LINEBACKERS** - This is a position in transition following the departure of longtime standout MLB London Fletcher and Pro Bowl OLB Takeo Spikes. Angelo Crowell, who switched from the strong side to the weak-side spot last year but missed the last four games due to a fracture in his lower leg, will likely go back to the strong side after the Bills insert rookie Paul Posluszny into the MLB spot. The Bills hope Posluszny, a throwback player with all the intangibles, can be as dependable a pro as ex-Penn State and ex-Bills standout Shane Conlan was. Crowell is instinctive, quick, fairly explo-

sive, physical and aware. He's not a big take-on guy in the run game, but he uses his hands well. Keith Ellison was a pleasant surprise as a rookie. He's very undersized but pretty aware for a young player and pretty good in coverage. His lack of mass hurts him in the run game.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** - The loss of No. 1 CB Nate Clements is clearly a blow to a pass defense that ranked seventh in the league last season. Clements turned up his game as last season wore on, but he had disappointed in the previous couple seasons, and the Bills deemed him unworthy of a monster contract. That leaves Terrence McGee and Ashton Youboty as the likely starters, with the undersized McGee at a disadvantage if he has to cover big, strong No. 1 receivers. McGee is talented, fast and possesses good cover skills, but he is coming off an average season in which he regressed a bit. Youboty hardly played as a rookie after missing much of training camp following the death of his mother. He has good size and speed and enough talent to develop into a starter. Veteran Kiwaukee Thomas is a smart zone corner who's pretty physical and who is a trusted performer in their nickel and dime packages. Young safeties Donte Whitner and Ko Simpson stepped into the starting lineup early in their rookie seasons and improved as the campaign wore on. Whitner is tough, physical, smart and instinctive. He's at his best when he's close to the line of scrim-

mage rather than playing the deep part of the field. He has good zone awareness and can cover tight ends. Simpson is not a very good space player, missing tackles, giving too big of a cushion in coverage and taking inconsistent angles chasing. He's OK in coverage and a little inconsistent in support.

## Special teams

The Bills continue to boast one of the league's top special-teams units under the exceptional direction of coordinator Bobby April. P Brian Moorman and PK

Rian Lindell excel under less-than-ideal conditions, kicking in the elements at Ralph Wilson Stadium. Moorman deservedly has gone to the Pro Bowl each of the past two seasons,

while Lindell has performed well under the radar, making 23-of-25 field-goal attempts last year, while connecting on both of his 50-plus attempts.

Terrence McGee (kick returns) and Roscoe Parrish (punt returns) are two of the most dangerous returners in the league, and the Bills' coverage units rank in the upper-third of the league.

## Summary

The new regime of Marv Levy and Dick Jauron continues to re-shape the roster, acquiring players who are intrinsically motivated and who fit their scheme. But there are still some big holes to fill, and in a tough division that includes two '06 playoff teams, it will be difficult to improve upon the 7-9 record from Jauron's first season.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1 @N.E.	WK 2 @MIA.	WK 3 N.Y.J.	WK 4 MINN.	WK 5 @CHI.	WK 6 @DET.	WK 7 N.E.	WK 8 @IND.	WK 9 @IND.	WK 10 @IND.	WK 11 @IND.	WK 12 JAX.	WK 13 S.D.	WK 14 @N.Y.J.	WK 15 MIA.	WK 16 TEN.	WK 17 @BALT.	TOTALS
Score	17-19	16-6	20-28	17-12	7-40	17-20	6-28	24-10	16-17	24-21	27-24	21-24	31-13	21-0	29-30	7-19		
Total net yards	240	171	475	298	145	242	255	184	162	403	241	230	318	286	368	253		4271
Rushing yards	99	105	169	95	58	85	75	120	111	70	72	63	174	100	117	39		1552
Passing yards	141	66	306	203	87	157	180	64	51	333	169	167	144	186	251	214		2719
Rushing plays	24	32	31	33	18	21	25	28	31	21	23	24	34	37	24	14		420
Sacks allowed	3	2	3	3	3	5	2	5	4	2	0	3	3	3	3	3		47
Had intercepted	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	2	2		14
Fumbles lost	0	0	2	0	2	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	1		15
Yards penalized	53	30	43	104	44	20	67	50	40	17	55	10	10	17	50	19		629
Punts	5	6	2	7	6	7	5	8	4	7	6	7	6	7	2	7		92

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Time of poss.***	32:55	29:01	26:47	24:03	37:31	31:41	31:40	34:21	33:48	32:25	32:10	34:23	32:08	28:20	33:18	36:21		31:56
Total net yards*	319	282	256	330	351	397	265	427	384	394	323	335	275	212	396	327		5273
Rushing yards	183	92	74	63	156	135	94	147	148	188	207	197	132	112	215	111		2254
Passing yards	136	190	182	267	195	262	171	280	236	206	116	138	143	100	181	216		3019
Rushing plays	41	20	24	16	38	27	27	30	29	26	35	35	30	28	40	30		476
Sacks allowed	3	7	1	0	3	3	4	2	0	3	3	3	5	2	1	0		40
Had intercepted	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1		13
Fumbles lost	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0		11
Yards penalized	5	75	52	78	21	40	25	36	54	40	108	30	15	25	81	24		709
Punts	4	7	7	6	3	5	6	6	3	6	6	6	5	8	4	4		86

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Losman	1-0-0	2-10-0	3-14-1	4-17-0	3-8-0	3-16-0	3-13-0	3-2-0	1-0-0	2-14-0	3-0-0	6-26-0	1-(-1)-0	2-11-0		1-10-0		38-140-1
McGahee	20-70-0	25-91-0	26-150-0	28-78-1	14-50-0	17-66-0	20-59-0	4-15-0				12-63-2	16-26-1	16-125-1	28-79-0	22-95-1	11-23-0	259-990-6
Parrish			1-4-0	1-0-0				1-8-0				1-7-0	1-11-0					2-18-0
Price								1-8-0				1-9-0	1-(-3)-0					5-18-0
Reed							1-1-0							1-(-8)-0	1-15-0	1-3-0		4-13-0
A. Thomas	3-29-1	5-4-0	1-1-0			1-3-0	1-2-0	20-95-1	28-109-0	19-56-0	4-0-0	2-11-0	15-42-0	6-16-0	1-7-0	1-3-0		107-378-2
S. Williams								1-0-0		1-2-0								2-2-0

### PASSING \*\*

	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Losman	15-23-0	11-18-0	22-38-1	23-32-0	14-27-3	21-34-1	16-25-1	8-15-0	8-12-0	26-38-1	21-28-1	21-37-2	10-15-0	13-19-0	19-33-2	20-35-2		268-429-14
	164-0	83-1	328-1	224-1	115-1	207-2	192-0	102-1	83-0	340-3	169-0	184-2	157-2	200-3	266-1	237-1		3051-19

### RECEIVING

	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Cieslak										1-4-0	3-25-0					1-9-0	1-8-0	6-46-0
Andre' Davis											1-5-0					1-8-0		2-13-0
Evans	2-25-0	2-19-0	8-107-0	7-92-0	9-94-1	8-82-0	1-10-0	2-58-1	5-70-0	11-265-2	5-58-0	5-45-0	2-91-1	3-67-1	5-64-1	7-145-1		82-1292-8
McGahee	2-24-0	1-6-0	2-3-0	1-4-0	4-15-0	2-14-0	2-61-0					1-8-0	1-1-0		2-20-0			18-156-0
Neufeld						1-4-1												1-4-1
Parrish	2-20-0	1-4-0	4-104-1	3-25-0		2-48-1					2-36-0	3-33-0				6-50-0		23-320-2
Price	3-25-0	2-12-0	3-49-0	5-40-1	1-6-0	4-27-0	5-53-0	1-6-0	3-13-0	2-21-1	3-10-0	3-17-1	2-19-0	1-6-0	7-73-0	4-25-0		49-402-3
Reed	3-40-0	4-39-1	4-45-0	4-43-0		3-24-0	4-32-0	1-8-0				4-50-0	1-11-0	4-50-1	2-70-0			34-410-2
Royal	1-14-0	1-3-0	1-20-0	1-13-0		1-8-0	4-36-0	1-9-0		1-5-0	3-14-0	1-5-1	2-13-1	3-62-1	2-30-0	1-1-0		23-233-3
Shelton				1-6-0				2-17-0		4-12-0								7-35-0
A. Thomas	2-16-0							1-6-0		7-33-0	3-13-0	4-33-0	3-23-0	2-15-0				22-139-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





# Buffalo Bills

One Bills Drive  
Orchard Park, NY 14127  
716/648-1800  
Official Website: www.buffalobills.com  
Stadium: Ralph Wilson Stadium  
Capacity: 73,967  
Playing surface: AstroPlay  
2006 record: 7-9; Third in AFC East

**Owner and president:** Ralph Wilson Jr.; **General manager/football operations:** Marv Levy; **Assistant general manager:** Tom Modrak; **Director of pro personnel:** John Guy; **Coordinator of college scouting:** Doug Majeski

**Head coach:** Dick Jauron

**Assistant coaches:** John Allaire, *strength and conditioning*; Bobby April, *asst. head coach/special teams*; George Catavolos, *defensive backs*; Charlie Colner, *tight ends*; DeMontie Cross, *defensive/special-teams assistant*; Steve Fairchild, *offensive coordinator*; Perry Fewell, *defensive coordinator*; Bill Kollar, *defensive line*; Sean Kugler, *asst. offensive line*; Chuck Lester, *defensive assistant/coaching operations*; Jim McNally, *offensive line*; Turk Schonert, *quarterbacks*; Matt Sheldon, *linebackers*; Eric Studesville, *running backs*; Tyke Tolbert, *wide receivers*; Alex Van Pelt, *offensive quality control*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
WR	<b>83 EVANS</b>	11 Parrish	89 Aiken	
OLT	<b>71 PETERS</b>	60 Butler	73 Chambers	74 Hand
OLG	<b>66 DOCKERY</b>	62 Merz		
C	<b>67 FOWLER</b>	75 Preston	62 Merz	
ORG	<b>75 PRESTON</b>	65 Whittle	60 Butler	
ORT	<b>88 L. WALKER</b>	79 Pennington	60 Butler	70 Stith
TE	<b>84 ROYAL</b>	86 Cieslak	87 Murphy	
TE	<b>85 EVERETT</b>	88 Neufeld	80 Schouman*	
WR	<b>81 PRICE</b>	82 Reed	15 Wilson	
QB	<b>7 LOSMAN</b>	16 Nall	5 Edwards*	
RB	<b>23 LYNCH*</b>	28 A. Thomas	31 Wright*	36 S. Williams
DEFENSE				
DLE	<b>90 KELSAY</b>	92 R. Denney	72 Neill	76 Ah You*
DLT	<b>98 TRIPPLETT</b>	96 D. Walker	99 Jefferson	
DRT	<b>95 K. WILLIAMS</b>	97 McCargo	77 Anderson	
DRE	<b>94 SCHOBEL</b>	93 Hargrove	91 Powell	
SLB	<b>55 CROWELL</b>	53 Haggan	57 Stamer	
MLB	<b>51 POSLUSZNY*</b>	52 DiGiorgio		
WLB	<b>56 ELLISON</b>	27 Wire	58 Manning	
LCB	<b>24 MCGEE</b>	33 Greer	21 Bassey	
RCB	<b>26 YUBOTY</b>	25 K. Thomas		
SS	<b>20 WHITNER</b>	42 Leonhard		
FS	<b>30 SIMPSON</b>	29 Wendling*	42 Leonhard	
SPECIALISTS				
P	<b>8 MOORMAN</b>			
PK	<b>9 LINDELL</b>			
H	<b>8 MOORMAN</b>			
PR	<b>11 PARRISH</b>	36 S. Williams		
KR	<b>24 MCGEE</b>	36 S. Williams		
LS	<b>54 SCHNECK</b>	88 Neufeld	75 Preston	

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Denver	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at New England	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Oct. 8	Dallas	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 14	BYE	
Oct. 21	Baltimore	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	at N.Y. Jets	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 4	Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Miami	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	New England	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Washington	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	Miami	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	at Cleveland	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	N.Y. Giants	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Philadelphia	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Pointspread refers to Buffalo

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At New England	(+9.5)	17-19
Sept. 17	At Miami	(+7)	16-6
Sept. 24	New York Jets	(-5.5)	20-28
Oct. 1	Minnesota	(-1.5)	17-12
Oct. 8	At Chicago	(+9.5)	7-40
Oct. 15	At Detroit	(-2)	17-20
Oct. 22	New England	(+5.5)	6-28
Oct. 29	BYE		
Nov. 5	Green Bay	(-3.5)	24-10
Nov. 12	At Indianapolis	(+12)	16-17
Nov. 19	At Houston	(+3)	24-21
Nov. 26	Jacksonville	(+3)	27-24
Dec. 3	San Diego	(+5.5)	21-24
Dec. 10	At New York Jets	(+5)	31-13
Dec. 17	Miami	(-1)	21-0
Dec. 24	Tennessee	(-5.5)	29-30
Dec. 31	At Baltimore	(+9.5)	7-19

## BILLS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
76	Ah You, C.J.	DE	6-4	274	R	Oklahoma	
89	Aiken, Sam	WR	6-2	215	5	North Carolina	15/0
77	Anderson, Tim	DT	6-3	328	4	Ohio State	15/5
21	Bassey, Eric	CB	6-1	203	1	Oklahoma	0/0
	Brown, Aaron	WR	6-3	210	R	New Hampshire	
60	Butler, Brad	OL	6-7	315	2	Virginia	2/0
73	Chambers, Kirk	OL	6-7	315	3	Stanford	0/0
86	Cieslak, Brad	TE	6-3	253	3	Northern Illinois	7/2
37	Coleman, Duane	CB	5-10	199	R	Clemson	
18	Cornelius, Jemalle	WR	5-11	184	R	Florida	
55	Crowell, Angelo	LB	6-1	246	5	Virginia	12/12
64	Davis, Corey	OL	6-3	323	R	James Madison	
	Denney, Chris	WR	6-3	219	R	Nebraska-Omaha	
92	Denney, Ryan	DE	6-7	264	6	BYU	16/0
52	DiGiorgio, John	LB	6-2	229	2	Saginaw Valley State	12/0
66	Dockery, Derrick	OL	6-6	330	5	Texas	16/16
	Eakin, Kevin	QB	6-1	225	1	Fordham	0/0
5	Edwards, Trent	QB	6-4	231	R	Stanford	
56	Ellison, Keith	LB	6-0	229	2	Oregon State	14/7
83	Evans, Lee	WR	5-10	197	4	Wisconsin	16/15
85	Everett, Kevin	TE	6-4	253	2	Miami	16/4
67	Fowler, Melvin	OL	6-3	310	6	Maryland	16/16
63	Gaddis, Christian	OL	6-1	300	R	Villanova	
33	Greer, Jabari	CB	5-11	175	4	Tennessee	16/0
53	Haggan, Mario	LB	6-3	263	5	Mississippi State	16/0
74	Hand, Randy	OL	6-6	324	1	Florida	0/0
93	Hargrove, Anthony	DE	6-3	271	4	Georgia Tech	15/2
64	Harris, LaRon	DE	6-3	345	R	Northwestern Oklahoma St.	
50	Harrison, Kevin	LB	6-0	250	1	Eastern Michigan	0/0
39	Hooper, Trevor	FS	6-1	205	R	Stanford	
6	Jackson, Chris	P	5-11	175	R	LSU	
22	Jackson, Fred	RB	6-1	215	1	Coe College	0/0
99	Jefferson, Jason	DT	6-1	295	3	Wisconsin	4/0
90	Kelsay, Chris	DE	6-4	261	5	Nebraska	16/16
42	Leonhard, Jim	S	5-8	185	3	Wisconsin	15/1
41	Lewis, Reggie	CB	5-10	204	R	Florida	
9	Lindell, Rian	PK	6-3	233	8	Washington State	16/0
7	Losman, J.P.	QB	6-2	212	4	Tulane	16/16
23	Lynch, Marshawn	RB	5-11	215	R	California	
69	Mace, Corey	DL	6-3	297	R	Wyoming	
58	Manning, Roy	LB	6-2	245	3	Michigan	0/0
19	Mayle, Scott	WR	6-1	175	R	Ohio	
97	McCargo, John	DT	6-2	307	2	N.C. State	5/0
24	McGee, Terrence	CB	5-9	198	5	Northwestern State	15/15
62	Merz, Aaron	OL	6-4	325	2	California	7/1
8	Moorman, Brian	P	6-0	172	7	Pittsburg State (Kan.)	16/0
87	Murphy, Matt	TE	6-5	277	5	Maryland	2/0
16	Nall, Craig	QB	6-3	245	6	Northwestern (La.) St.	0/0
72	Neill, Ryan	DE	6-3	253	1	Rutgers	0/0
88	Neufeld, Ryan	TE	6-4	245	7	UCLA	9/0
11	Parrish, Roscoe	WR	5-9	171	3	Miami	16/1
79	Pennington, Terrance	OL	6-7	331	2	New Mexico	11/9
71	Peters, Jason	OL	6-4	340	4	Arkansas	16/16
	Peterson, Daunta	WR	5-11	200	R	Dubuque	
51	Posluszny, Paul	LB	6-2	238	R	Penn State	
91	Powell, Eric	DE	6-3	284	2	Florida State	0/0
75	Preston, Duke	OL	6-5	326	3	Illinois	16/8
81	Price, Peerless	WR	5-11	194	9	Tennessee	16/14
40	Quinn, Johnny	WR-RS	6-0	201	R	North Texas	
82	Reed, Josh	WR	5-10	210	6	LSU	13/2
84	Royal, Robert	TE	6-4	255	5	LSU	16/15
54	Schneck, Mike	LS	6-1	233	9	Wisconsin	16/0
94	Schobel, Aaron	DE	6-4	243	7	TCU	16/16
80	Schouman, Derek	TE-FB	6-2	247	R	Boise State	
30	Simpson, Ko	S	6-1	202	2	South Carolina	16/15
57	Stamer, Josh	LB	6-2	236	5	South Dakota	6/0
70	Stith, Walter	OL	6-9	295	1	North Carolina A&T	0/0
28	Thomas, Anthony	RB	6-2	221	7	Michigan	16/2
25	Thomas, Kiwaukee	CB	5-11	188	8	Georgia Southern	16/2
43	Thomas, Stacey	SS	6-0	200	R	Texas Southern	
98	Tripplett, Larry	DT	6-2	293	6	Washington	16/16
69	Tubbs, Zach	OL	6-6	335	R	Arkansas	
96	Walker, Darwin	DT	6-3	294	8	Tennessee	16/15
68	Walker, Langston	OL	6-8	366	6	California	16/16
59	Washington, Thaddeus	LB	5-10	246	R	Colorado	
29	Wendling, John	S	6-1	222	R	Wyoming	
20	Whitner, Donte	S	5-10	208	2	Ohio State	15/14
65	Whittle, Jason	OL	6-4	279	9	SW Missouri State	16/2
95	Williams, Kyle	DT	6-1	306	2	LSU	16/11
36	Williams, Shaud	RB	5-7	193	4	Alabama	5/0
15	Wilson, George	WR	6-0	212	2	Arkansas	0/0
27	Wire, Coy	S	6-0	220	6	Stanford	16/1
38	Wright, Dwayne	RB	5-11	228	R	Fresno State	
26	Yuboty, Ashton	CB	5-11	189	2	Ohio State	3/1



MIAMI

## DOLPHINS

SPORTS PICTURE NETWORK



JASON TAYLOR

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **5-11** 4th place /  
AFC East

The Nick Saban era ended with a whimper after only two seasons and a disappointing 15-17 record as Saban, despite repeated denials, stunned owner Wayne Huizenga and resigned to take the University of

Alabama head-coaching job.

In Saban's place, Huizenga empowered GM

Randy Mueller, who had deferred to Saban regarding personnel matters, and hired head coach Cam Cameron, a bright offensive mind

who directed the league's highest-scoring offense in San Diego, to oversee the makeover of the franchise.

The top priority for Cameron and Co. is to find a starting quarterback, something Saban failed to do.

With a rebuilt offensive line and several aging defenders, this appears to be a team in transition in 2007.

## Offense

Cam Cameron prefers having a two-back set, though he will have a tough time finding a blocking back like he had in San Diego with Lorenzo Neal. Look for the Dolphins to do a fair amount of shifting

before the snap, trying to create mismatches for his skilled talent like RB Ronnie Brown and WR Chris Chambers. Cameron likes to spread the ball around, using timing patterns, and doesn't throw the ball deep too often, but he will open up the offense depending on the deep-throwing accuracy of his quarterback. He doesn't have a tight end in Miami who can catch the ball like Antonio Gates, so he may have to compensate by using the wide receivers more than he did in San Diego. He also is a master of the trick play, a la Cardinals head coach Ken Whisenhunt and Dolphins TE coach Mike Mularkey. Cameron has worked with OL coach Hudson Houck before when they both were in San Diego, so the two should be on the same page



from the outset.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ At presstime, the Dolphins had yet to decide on which veteran quarterbacks they would be pairing with rookie John Beck, though all signs pointed to veteran Trent Green coming over from the Chiefs. Green knows Cameron's offense and would hold the fort as the starter until Beck's ready. Cleo Lemon has a strong arm and possesses enough mobility to handle the blitz and get out of trouble. If he shows that he can manage the game effectively and pass the ball consistently, he could challenge for the starting job. Beck is smart, knows where to go with the ball and has solid intangibles, but he doesn't have a big-time arm and benefited from playing in a shotgun system at BYU. Daunte Culpepper struggled mightily in the four games in which he played to start the season before being shut down with soreness in his surgically repaired knee. With questions lingering about his slow-healing knee, Culpepper is not expected to be a part of the Dolphins' long-term plan.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ The Dolphins refused to talk about Ricky Williams until the decision came down regarding his reinstatement from the league. If he's in the mix, he'll team with Ronnie Brown to give the Dolphins a formidable RB tandem. The two excelled in 2005, combining for 1,650 yards and 10 touchdowns. Brown is a tough, strong and power runner who's still learning what he can and can't do at the NFL level. He hasn't proven he can carry the load as a workhorse back and seems to run best behind a lead blocker. That role will be filled by Cory Schlesinger, who offers toughness and leadership but is nearing the end of his career. He can catch the ball out of the backfield, but his ability to stay healthy is a concern. Rookie Lorenzo Booker could be an effective change-of-pace back. He's a great athlete with quick-cutting ability and nice hands.

**RECEIVERS** ■ WR Chris Chambers regressed after a Pro Bowl season in 2005, struggling to adapt to different quarterbacks and failing to make many big plays. He has good size, very good speed and exceptional athletic ability. He has great body control and can adjust to make the catch in the air. Concentration lapses have always been part of his game, and he seems to be best when he is featured. The Dolphins hope speedy rookie Ted Ginn Jr. will stretch the field and open things up for Chambers and the running game. However, his impact likely will be greater as a returner. At 180 pounds, his ability to stay healthy is a concern, and the severely sprained foot he injured in the Fiesta Bowl has been slow to heal, with his return to the field not expected until summer. Marty Booker is a big target who has inconsistent hands and drops some catchable balls. He isn't a finisher on his routes, doesn't show consistent desire and will disappear in games. Derek Hagan has good

## PFW PROJECTIONS



### BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER

#### DE MATT ROTH

He showed good skills last season in a backup role and has been promoted to start in place of departed veteran Kevin Carter.

### POSITION BATTLE

#### P:

#### BRANDON FIELDS VS. RYAN FLINN

Miami used the late-round pick acquired from the Rams for RFA P Donnie Jones to select Fields. He'll battle Flinn, who has NFL experience with the Packers in 2005.

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

### KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS

PK Jay Feely, WR Az-Zahir Hakim, OG Chris Liwinski, TE David Martin, LB Joey Porter, OT Mike Rosenthal, FB Cory Schlesinger, FS Cameron Worrell.

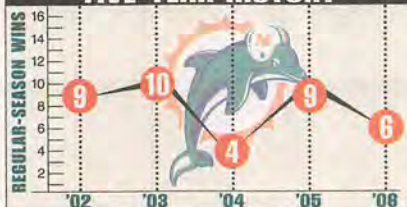
### KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES

OG Bennie Anderson, FB Darian Barnes, DE David Bowens, DE Kevin Carter, QB Joey Harrington, OG Geno James, P Donnie Jones, OT Damion McIntosh, OG-C Seth McKinney, TE Randy McMichael, RB Travis Minor, RB Sammy Morris, WR Wes Welker, DT Dan Wilkinson.

## 2007 DRAFT PICKS

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Ted Ginn Jr.	WR	Ohio State	9
2	John Beck	QB	Brigham Young	40
2	Samson Satele	C	Hawaii	60
3	Lorenzo Booker	RB	Florida State	71
4	Paul Soliai	DT	Utah	108
6	Reagan Maula	FB	Hawaii	181
6	Drew Mornino	C	Central Michigan	199
7	Kelvin Smith	ILB	Syracuse	219
7	Brandon Fields	P	Michigan State	225
7	Abraham Wright	DE	Colorado	238

## FIVE-YEAR HISTORY



size and plays faster than he times but struggles with a bad case of the drops. TE David Martin, a pumped-up receiver, came over from Green Bay to help replace Randy McMichael, who was a salary-cap casualty. Martin has decent hands and can make plays downfield, but he's a limited blocker. The coaching staff believes he's a better fit in the offense than McMichael would've been. Justin Peelle is a good blocker and a functional receiver and possesses the versatility to play tight end, H-back or fullback.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The team let go of OLT Damion McIntosh and OLG Geno James, two starters from a season ago, along with OGs Seth McKinney and Bennie Anderson. Ace O-line coach Hudson Houck

will be entrusted to mold the best five blockers into a cohesive unit. OT Vernon Carey, who could start on either side, is a better run blocker than a pass blocker. He struggles with quick movement and speed rushers. L.J. Shelton, who was moved from left tackle to right guard last season, could find his way back to tackle, this time on the right side. He has good size, but he's too inconsistent and would be best as a No. 3

swing tackle. C Rex Hadnot is an adequate player who's not overly strong. Veteran Chris Liwinski, who started six games for the Cardinals last season, takes over at right guard while second-year pro Joe Toledo, who missed last season with a knee injury, will battle rookie Samson Satele for the starting OLG spot. Veteran Mike Rosenthal is the top backup at the OT spot, while promising OT Anthony Alabi is a project who has the talent and athleticism to play the left side.

## Defense

One of the biggest moves the Dolphins made during the offseason was retaining ace coordinator Dom Capers, who helped Miami's "D" finish fourth overall last season. Look for Capers to do what he does best, bringing pressure out of a base 3-4 scheme. DE Jason Taylor is the defending NFL Defensive Player of the Year and could be helped by the addition of ex-Steelers OLB Joey Porter, who made his mark as a strong pass rusher in the Capers-designed defense used in Pittsburgh. The front seven is aging, but the Fins are counting on veterans like Taylor, Porter, MLB Zach Thomas and NT Keith Traylor to continue playing at a high level.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ DE Jason Taylor is the featured performer on a D-line that racked up 47 sacks, ranking third in the league. Taylor is a true professional, playing hard on every down. He uses his exceptional athleticism to wreak havoc in one-on-one pass-rush situations and needs to be double-teamed. His length helps him deflect passes at the line of scrimmage or in coverage, and he has good ball skills to force and recover turnovers. Matt Roth, a second-round pick in 2005, gets an opportunity to take over at the other DE spot. He has a good motor and flashes as a pass rusher. DT Vonnie Holliday is a hot-and-cold player who is versatile enough to line up inside or outside. He picks his spots and doesn't rush the passer consistently. He's better outside because he's not bulked up enough to take the pounding inside. NT Keith Traylor turns 38 in early September and is only a two-down player at this stage of his career. Durability is an issue after missing five games the past two seasons. NT Fred Evans is big and strong and loaded with raw ability but appears to be a year away from being a regular contributor. Rodrique Wright has the size and ability to play inside or outside. He has to overcome the shoulder injury that sidelined him all of his rookie season and an



underachiever label that was attached to him in college. Rookie DT Paul Soliai flashes tremendous potential but has been an underachiever.

**LINEBACKERS** • Zach Thomas has amazingly been able to stand up to the pounding of 11 NFL seasons and appears none the worse for wear. However, his effectiveness is dependent on how well protected he is by the defensive tackles up front. If the Dolphins' DTs struggle, the undersized Thomas will too, because he can't get off blocks and gets engulfed by bigger blockers. He makes a lot of tackles, but he also misses a bunch. WLB Channing Crowder has good size, speed and range. However, he doesn't get off blocks consistently, is undisciplined, watches the backfield too much, false-steps, gets out of position and loses the ball in traffic. SLB

Joey Porter appears to have lost a step, and his production slipped last season in Pittsburgh. He was sought for the swagger and leadership he brings. He has a good motor, good size and is decent vs. the run, but he could struggle if assignments aren't kept simple for him. Backup LB Derrick Pope is an undersized, blue-collar player who is best on special teams. Backup SLB Donnie Spragan adds quality depth.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • The Dolphins boast a solid trio of cornerbacks and safeties who all have experience and talent. CB Will Allen is not big or strong and can get pushed around, but he has good speed and

quickness. He's tough and aggressive and will play the run. He's quick to react and jump routes to anticipate throws. He has durability concerns and is susceptible to double moves. Andre Goodman has good athleticism, quickness, hip transition, vertical speed and short-area quickness. However, injuries have made him cautious and non-aggressive at times, and he is a durability concern. Although he has good burst and can close to the ball, he is not a good tackler. Travis Daniels has the size to match up with bigger receivers and possesses

some catch-up speed but lacks man-coverage skills. He doesn't play fast and gets beat vertically. He also doesn't close with a lot of quickness and will sit on

routes with his eyes in the backfield. Jeremiah Bell did well when he moved into the starting lineup at midseason, with Dom Capers using his aggressiveness to the team's advantage on the blitz. He is a little better than average athletically with adequate quickness and flexibility. He's best running in a straight line and struggles when he has to change direction. He's not a big man but tries to play like one and gets pushed around.

Renaldo Hill is a versatile guy who can play cornerback. He is a willing tackler who attempts to wrap up and is better in a short area than in space. He's an effort player who is quicker than fast. His coverage skills are inconsistent, and he loses cushion control. Jason Allen is a good athlete with speed and burst, but he struggled as a rookie to

learn the defense after bouncing between corner and free safety in the preseason. He seemed to lose confidence, thinking too much and taking poor angles. He has all the athletic skills teams could want and showed he can mirror receivers.

## Special teams

For the first time since the 1996 season, the Dolphins will be employing a placekicker whose name isn't Olindo Mare. The team decided to replace the 11-year veteran with ex-Giants PK Jay Feely, who has a strong leg and has experience kicking in adverse conditions in the windy Meadowlands the past two seasons. Rookie P Brandon Fields will battle veteran Ryan Flinn for the punting job. Ex-Bears S Cameron

Worrell was added via free agency to help improve a kick-coverage unit that ranked 26th last season. He tied for the team lead in special-teams tackles with Chicago a year ago. The electric return skills of Ted Ginn Jr. should greatly improve the punt-return and kick-return units. Miami hopes to get a Devin Hester type of impact from Ginn.

## Summary

Cam Cameron cleaned house during the offseason, and it's easy to see this being a transitional season as the new coach establishes his system and acquires his players. There is enough talent to be competitive, but there are big question marks, especially at quarterback, that need to be answered before Miami can expect to contend for a playoff berth in such a rugged division.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	17-28	6-16	13-10	15-17	10-20	17-20	24-34	31-13	13-10	24-20	27-10	10-24	21-0	0-21	10-13	22-27		
Total net yards	278	282	289	289	283	395	448	296	306	254	395	309	315	212	253	354		4960
Rushing yards	38	92	159	70	62	129	67	161	117	7	186	68	131	112	124	150		1673
Passing yards	240	190	130	219	221	266	381	137	189	247	209	241	184	100	129	204		3287
Rushing plays	18	20	36	14	21	29	17	35	36	13	35	19	31	28	24	26		402
Sacks allowed	3	7	6	5	1	0	4	0	1	1	1	4	1	2	3	2		41
Had intercepted	2	1	0	0	2	2	3	2	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	1		19
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		6
Yards penalized	63	75	29	35	81	61	70	69	3	40	100	10	30	25	78	20		789
Punts	6	7	6	5	3	3	4	6	6	6	5	3	6	8	10	2		86

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	35:27	30:59	24:31	33:55	29:43	28:16	27:59	30:06	24:10	36:00	25:56	30:56	28:40	31:40	30:32	30:48		29:59
Total net yards	342	171	316	276	213	272	346	292	265	361	220	353	189	286	324	399		4625
Rushing yards	146	105	82	65	79	103	155	103	80	114	21	150	123	100	95	117		1618
Passing yards	196	66	254	211	134	169	191	189	185	247	199	203	66	186	229	282		3007
Rushing plays	38	32	22	33	34	27	29	28	19	35	10	31	25	37	30	31		461
Sacks allowed	3	2	2	5	1	2	2	3	3	3	8	4	5	3	1	0		47
Had intercepted	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		8
Fumbles lost	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	3	0	2	1	1	3	2	1	1		19
Yards penalized	10	30	47	15	59	70	74	45	65	49	55	56	71	17	12	45		720
Punts	5	6	6	4	5	7	6	3	8	6	6	3	7	7	8	4		91

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

#### RUSHING

Brown	15-30-2	15-70-0	26-90-0	12-49-0	17-39-1	22-127-1	15-59-0	29-157-0	25-89-1	11-5-0	15-68-0					18-110-0	21-115-0	241-1008-5
Chambers		1-3-0	1-39-0	1-14-0	1-18-0	1-1-0			1-2-0						1-11-0			8-95-0
Culpepper	3-8-0	1-7-0	6-5-1															10-20-1
Harrington						1-(-1)-0	1-3-0	4-2-0	4-6-0	2-2-0	1-2-0	1-(-1)-0	4-4-0	1-7-0				19-24-0
Minor											6-27-0	6-22-0	2-4-0	5-21-0				19-74-0
Morris					2-5-0	5-2-0	1-5-0	1-3-0	6-20-0		12-91-0	12-47-0	25-123-1	20-71-0	6-14-0	2-19-0		92-400-1

#### PASSING \*\*

Culpepper	18-37-2	23-32-1	17-26-0	23-39-0														81-134-3
Harrington	262-0	250-1	168-0	249-1														929-2
Lamon					26-41-2	27-43-2	33-62-3	16-32-2	19-35-0	26-42-1	19-29-1	27-42-2	18-30-0	5-17-2	7-15-0			223-388-15
					232-0	266-1	414-2	137-3	201-0	254-1	213-3	267-1	190-1	20-0	42-0			2236-12
														9-16-0	11-16-0	18-36-1		38-68-1
														98-0	104-1	210-1		412-2

#### RECEIVING

Booker	3-64-0	3-33-0	2-36-0	3-43-0	2-22-0		7-110-1	3-14-1	2-16-0	6-84-0	7-115-2	5-61-1	8-103-1			4-46-0		55-747-6
Brown	3-32-0	6-52-0	2-10-0	8-62-0	1-(-3)-0		5-63-0	2-33-0	1-(-3)-0		1-5-0					3-15-0	1-10-0	33-276-0
Chambers	5-59-0	4-55-1	4-39-0	3-28-1	5-29-0	5-60-1	2-29-0	5-58-1	3-66-0	6-44-0	2-23-0	8-121-0	3-11-0			1-16-0	3-39-0	59-677-4
Hagan	1-14-0					1-17-0	6-66-0	5-53-1	1-7-0	1-11-0	1-7-0	1-5-0				3-35-0	1-6-0	21-221-1
McMichael	1-10-0	3-34-0	2-15-0	4-54-0	6-84-0	8-72-0	7-77-0	1-11-0	5-34-0	4-37-0	3-25-1	2-14-0	3-31-0	4-41-0	5-46-1	4-55-1		62-640-3
Morris						1-7-0	1-44-0	1-(-2)-0	2-17-0	2-2-0		3-20-0	2-39-0	5-12-0	4-23-0			21-162-0
Peelle	1-16-0			1-7-0	2-6-0			1-2-0	2-14-0	3-21-1	1-3-0			1-7-0	1-9-0	1-0-0	2-31-0	16-116-1
Welker	4-67-0	5-41-0	5-59-0	4-55-0	9-77-0	6-56-0	6-38-0	2-14-1	3-46-0	4-59-0	5-42-0	5-44-0	1-(-1)-0	4-56-0	1-11-0	3-23-0		67-687-1

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Miami Dolphins

7500 S.W. 30th Street  
Davie, FL 33314  
954/452-7000  
Official Website: www.miamidolphins.com  
Stadium: Dolphin Stadium  
Capacity: 75,540  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 6-10; Fourth in AFC East

Cam Cameron

**Owner/Chairman of the board:** H. Wayne Huizenga; **CEO:** Joseph A. Bailey, III; **President/COO:** Bryan Wiedmeier; **General manager:** Randy Mueller; **Director of college scouting:** Ron Labadie; **Director of pro personnel:** George Paton  
**Head coach:** Cam Cameron

**Assistant coaches:** Keith Armstrong, *special-teams coordinator*; Dom Capers, *defensive coordinator*; Tim Davis, *asst. offensive line*; Mike Dumas, *asst. secondary*; George Edwards, *linebackers*; Steve Hoffman, *asst. special teams*; Hudson Houck, *offensive line*; Bobby Jackson, *running backs*; Travis Jones, *defensive line (ends)*; Marvin Marshall, *offensive quality control*; Brett Maxie, *secondary (safeties)*; Mike Mularkey, *tight ends*; Brad Ohrt, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Mel Phillips, *secondary (cornerbacks)*; Glenn Pires, *asst. line-backers*; Diron Reynolds, *defensive line (tackles)*; Terry Robiskie, *wide receivers*; Matt Schiotz, *strength and conditioning*; Terry Shea, *quarterbacks*; Chad Walker, *defensive quality control*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

WR <b>84 CHAMBERS</b>	11 Ginn*	80 Campbell	81 Hakim
OLT <b>72 CAREY</b>	79 Alabi		
OLG <b>67 TOLEDO</b>	64 Satele*		
C <b>66 HADNOT</b>	77 Mormino*	68 Ingram	
ORG <b>76 LIWIENSKI</b>	64 Satele*	73 Stevenson	
ORT <b>70 SHELTON</b>	78 Rosenthal	72 Carey	
TE <b>88 MARTIN</b>	87 Peelle	85 Rader	89 Massaquoi
WR <b>86 M. BOOKER</b>	82 Hagan	14 Sam	
QB <b>17 LEMON</b>	9 Beck*	7 Hamdan	8 Culpepper
RB <b>23 BROWN</b>	34 Williams	28 L. Booker*	38 Cobbs
FB <b>30 SCHLESINGER</b>	40 Eckel	45 Mauia*	

## DEFENSE

DLE <b>98 ROTH</b>			
NT <b>94 TRAYLOR</b>	62 Evans	96 Soliai*	
DRT <b>91 HOLIDAY</b>	90 R. Wright	92 Vickerson	95 Page
DRE <b>99 TAYLOR</b>	93 Gbaja-Biamila		
SLB <b>55 PORTER</b>	59 Spragan	53 A. Wright*	
MLB <b>54 THOMAS</b>	52 Crowder	51 McCune	
WLB <b>52 CROWDER</b>	56 Pope	57 Maxwell	58 Smith*
LCB <b>25 W. ALLEN</b>	21 Goodman	22 Lehan	
RCB <b>29 DANIELS</b>	32 J. Allen	27 Mitchell	
SS <b>37 BELL</b>	26 Tillman		
FS <b>24 HILL</b>	44 Worrell	32 J. Allen	

## SPECIALISTS

P <b>4 FIELDS*</b>	6 Flinn		
PK <b>3 FEELY</b>			
H <b>4 FIELDS*</b>	6 Flinn		
PR <b>11 GINN*</b>	80 Campbell		
KR <b>11 GINN*</b>	28 L. Booker*		
LS <b>97 DENNEY</b>			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Washington	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	Dallas	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 23	at N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	Oakland	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	at Houston	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Cleveland	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	New England	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	N.Y. Giants (at London)	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	BYE	
Nov. 11	Buffalo	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Nov. 26	at Pittsburgh	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 2	N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Buffalo	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Baltimore	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at New England	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	Cincinnati	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Miami

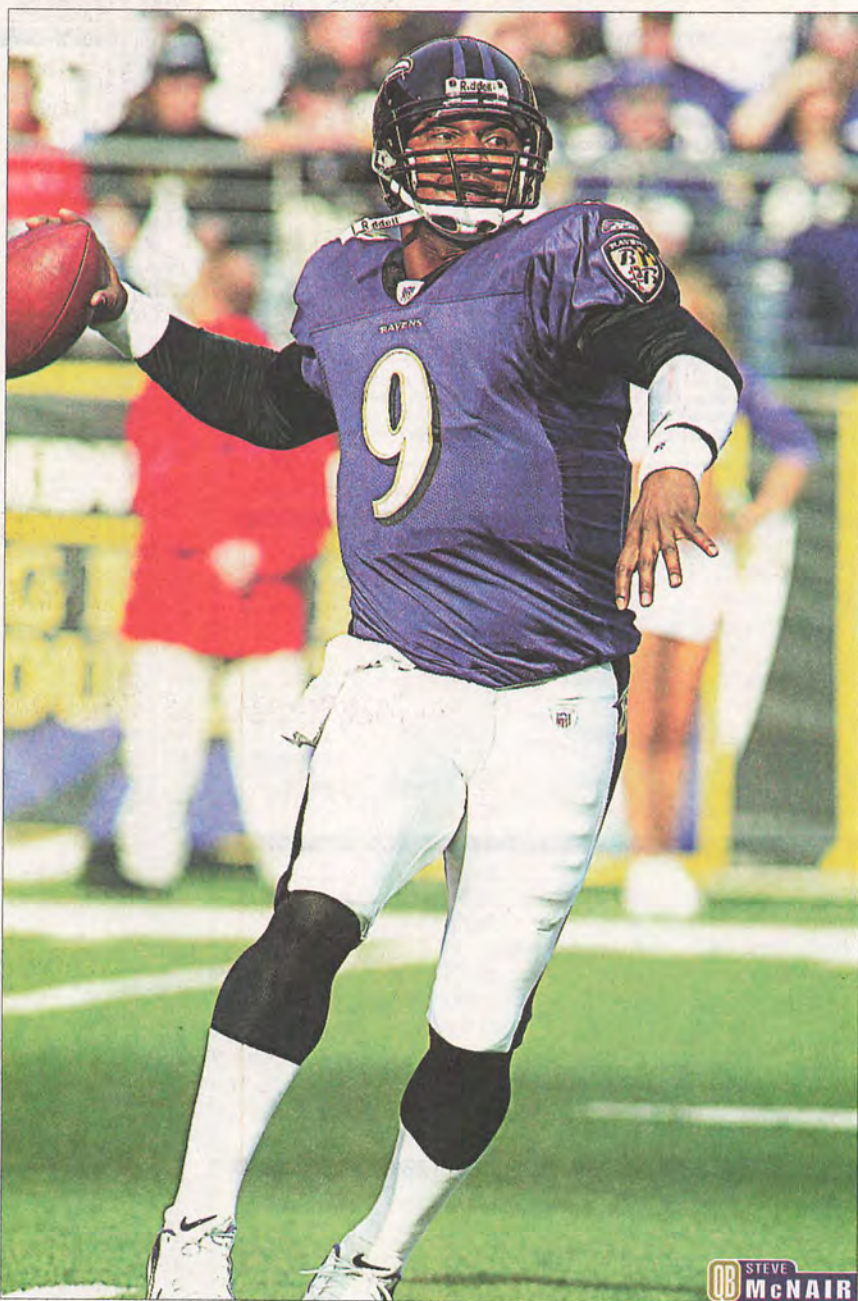
DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 7	At Pittsburgh	(+1.5)	17-28
Sept. 17	Buffalo	(-7)	6-16
Sept. 24	Tennessee	(-10.5)	13-10
Oct. 1	At Houston	(-3.5)	15-17
Oct. 8	At New England	(+9)	10-20
Oct. 15	At New York Jets	(+2)	17-20
Oct. 22	Green Bay	(-6)	24-34
Oct. 29	BYE		
Nov. 5	At Chicago	(+13)	31-13
Nov. 12	Kansas City	(-2)	13-10
Nov. 19	Minnesota	(-3.5)	24-20
Nov. 23	At Detroit	(-2.5)	27-10
Dec. 3	Jacksonville	(0)	10-24
Dec. 10	New England	(+3)	21-0
Dec. 17	At Buffalo	(+1)	0-21
Dec. 25	New York Jets	(-2.5)	10-13
Dec. 31	At Indianapolis	(+9.5)	22-27

## DOLPHINS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
79	Alabi, Anthony	OT	6-5	315	3	Texas Christian	6/0
25	Allen, Will	CB	5-10	196	7	Syracuse	15/15
32	Allen, Jason	S-CB	6-1	213	2	Tennessee	16/0
9	Beck, John	QB	6-2	215	R	Brigham Young	
37	Bell, Jeremiah	S	6-0	200	4	Eastern Kentucky	16/11
28	Booker, Lorenzo	RB	5-10	191	R	Florida State	
86	Booker, Marty	WR	6-0	210	9	Louisiana-Monroe	14/13
23	Brown, Ronnie	RB	6-0	232	3	Auburn	13/12
	Bruce, Mkristo	DE	6-6	268	R	Washington State	
80	Campbell, Kelly	WR	5-10	175	4	Georgia Tech	0/0
72	Carey, Vernon	OT	6-5	335	4	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
84	Chambers, Chris	WR	5-11	210	7	Wisconsin	16/16
20	Chatman, Jesse	RB	5-8	223	5	Eastern Washington	0/0
38	Cobbs, Patrick	RB	5-8	210	2	North Texas	3/0
52	Crowder, Channing	LB	6-2	245	3	Florida	16/14
8	Culpepper, Daunte	QB	6-4	265	9	Central Florida	4/4
29	Daniels, Travis	CB	6-1	192	3	LSU	12/6
97	Denney, John	LS	6-5	270	3	Brigham Young	16/0
	Dukes, Marion	OL	6-4	315	R	Clemson	
40	Eckel, Kyle	RB	5-11	237	1	Navy	0/0
	Esera, Tala	OG	6-3	312	R	Hawaii	
62	Evans, Frederick	DT	6-4	305	2	Texas State	1/0
3	Feely, Jay	PK	5-10	210	7	Michigan	16/0
4	Fields, Brandon	P	6-6	235	R	Michigan State	
60	Fifita, Steve	DT	6-0	312	R	Utah	
6	Flinn, Ryan	P	6-5	210	1	Central Florida	0/0
93	Gbaja-Biamila, Akbar	LB	6-5	263	4	San Diego State	3/1
11	Ginn Jr., Ted	WR-RS	6-0	180	R	Ohio State	
21	Goodman, Andre'	CB	5-10	185	6	South Carolina	15/14
66	Hadnot, Rex	C	6-2	325	4	Houston	16/16
82	Hagan, Derek	WR	6-2	203	2	Arizona State	16/0
81	Hakim, Az-Zahir	WR	5-10	190	10	San Diego State	6/0
49	Halterman, Aaron	TE	6-5	255	1	Indiana	0/0
7	Hamdan, Gibran	QB	6-4	220	2	Indiana	0/0
	Harris, Tuff	CB-PR	6-0	198	R	Montana	
	Hatchett, Gabe	WR	6-1	205	R	Southern Oregon	
24	Hill, Renaldo	S	5-11	190	7	Michigan State	16/16
91	Holiday, Vonnie	DT	6-5	288	10	North Carolina	16/16
68	Ingram, Johnathan	C	6-2	290	2	San Diego State	0/0
22	Lehan, Michael	CB	6-0	190	5	Minnesota	15/2
17	Lemon, Cleo	QB	6-2	215	4	Arkansas State	4/1
76	Liwienski, Chris	OG	6-5	325	9	Indiana	16/6
88	Martin, David	TE	6-4	265	7	Tennessee	11/4
89	Massaquoi, Tim	TE	6-3	255	2	Michigan	7/0
45	Mauia, Reagan	FB	6-0	270	R	Hawaii	
57	Maxwell, Jim	LB	6-4	240	4	Gardner-Webb	8/0
51	McCune, Robert	LB	6-0	240	3	Louisville	0/0
	Miles, Edmond	LB	5-11	227	R	Iowa	
27	Mitchell, Shirdonya	CB	5-11	183	2	Missouri	1/0
77	Mormino, Drew	C-OG	6-3	299	R	Central Michigan	
95	Page, Chase	DT	6-4	295	1	North Carolina	0/0
	Parker, Stephen	OG	6-4	310	R	Arkansas	
87	Peelle, Justin	TE	6-4	255	6	Oregon	15/10
33	Perkins, Ray	RB	5-10	205	1	Southeastern Louisiana	0/0
56	Pope, Derrick	LB	6-0	232	4	Alabama	11/0
	Pope, Geoffrey	CB	5-11	181	R	Howard	
55	Porter, Joey	LB	6-3	250	9	Colorado State	14/14
1	Prater, Matt	PK	5-10	180	1	Central Florida	0/0
85	Rader, Jason	TE	6-4	260	2	Marshall	5/1
78	Rosenthal, Mike	OT	6-7	320	9	Notre Dame	15/3
98	Roth, Matt	DE	6-4	272	3	Iowa	16/0
14	Sam, P.K.	WR	6-3	210	2	Florida State	0/0
64	Satele, Samson	C-OG	6-2	300	R	Hawaii	
30	Schlesinger, Cory	FB	6-0	250	13	Nebraska	14/5
70	Shelton, L.J.	OT	6-6	345	9	Eastern Michigan	16/16
58	Smith, Kelvin	LB	6-2	233	R	Syracuse	
96	Soliai, Paul	DT	6-4	344	R	Utah	
59	Spragan, Donnie	LB	6-3	242	7	Stanford	16/10
73	Stevenson, Dan	OG	6-5	300	1	Notre Dame	0/0
99	Taylor, Jason	DE	6-6	255	10	Akron	16/16
54	Thomas, Zach	LB	5-11	228	12	Texas Tech	16/16
26	Tillman, Travares	S	6-1	205	7	Georgia Tech	14/7
67	Toledo, Joe	OT	6-5	332	1	Washington	0/0
94	Traylor, Keith	DT	6-2	337	17	Central State (Okla.)	14/14
92	Vickerson, Kevin	DT	6-5	305	3	Michigan State	0/0
	Wilson, Julius	OT	6-4	327	R	Alabama-Birmingham	
44	Worrell, Cameron	S	5-11	194	5	Fresno State	16/0
34	Williams, Ricky	RB	5-10	226	6	Texas	0/0
53	Wright, Abraham	DE	6-3	245	R	Colorado	
90	Wright, Rodrique	DT	6-5	303	1	Texas	0/0



# BALTIMORE RAVENS



ROBERT LEITER

QB STEVE MCNAIR

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **11-5** 1st place /  
AFC North

What the Ravens did to the AFC North last season was truly something to behold. What was projected to be a three-team race between Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati turned into a Ravens romp. Thanks to the league's top-ranked defense and an offense that finally started to pull its weight, Baltimore locked up the division well before Christmas.



But if the regular season served to

flatter the Ravens, the postseason served to humble them.

The AFC's No. 2 seed flopped in a divisional-playoff loss to eventual Super Bowl winner Indianapolis, a performance marked by an awful game by QB Steve McNair and the inability of the defense to get the ball back for much of the fourth quarter.

So where do the Ravens go now?

The core of the defense is back, multitasking LB Adalius Thomas notwithstanding. Willis McGahee replaces Jamal Lewis as the starting running back and head coach Brian

Billick received a lucrative contract extension.

On paper, the Ravens look imposing. They went 5-1 vs. divisional competition last season, sweeping the Browns, pushing the Steelers around in a pair of easy wins and splitting with the pass-happy Bengals.

The Ravens' rivals look up at them for the time being. But was losing to the Colts in the playoffs a sign of tougher times to come?

## Offense

Head coach Brian Billick will continue to call the plays after the offense improved



when he wrestled control of the attack from Jim Fassel. Billick has more offensive talent than he has ever had in his Baltimore tenure, with QB Steve McNair, WRs Derrick Mason, Mark Clayton and Demetrius Williams and TE Todd Heap the core of a good passing game and Willis McGahee taking over for Jamal Lewis as Baltimore's bellcow.

**QUARTERBACKS** • When the Titans decided to unceremoniously dump QB Steve McNair last spring, the Ravens were more than happy to break his fall, and their decision to trade for the longtime Tennessee standout altered the course of their 2006 season. The Ravens couldn't have asked much more from McNair — he was the player and leader they expected him to be, and the offense greatly benefited from his presence. McNair's completion percentage improved in every month from September through December, proof of his improving comfort in the Ravens' offense. McNair doesn't have the cannon he had earlier in his career, but his touch and accuracy on short and intermediate throws is very good. McNair can still buy time with his feet, but he's more likely to side-step the rush, reset and scan downfield for secondary targets than pull the ball down and dash down the field. However, for as well as McNair played last season, he is 34 years old, and he has taken a pounding throughout his career. He started all 16 games last season, but that was more the exception than the rule when looking at his history. He is nearing the end of a distinguished career, and there's no guarantee he'll be Baltimore's starter in 2008. McNair's backup, Kyle

Boller, is scheduled to be an unrestricted free agent next spring. If Boller wants a starting job, he'll likely have to go elsewhere. Boller was a below-average starter for Baltimore, more game manager than gunslinger. Some evaluators believe there's hope for him still, but he needs to take a major step forward in his play, and soon. He is too easily rattled and does not see the field well. Fifth-round rookie Troy Smith is the likely No. 3 quarterback; if he's willing to learn from McNair, he may have a future in Baltimore.

**RUNNING BACKS** • It is easy to forget that Willis McGahee will only be 25 as of Week One. The Ravens are hoping he only scratched the surface of his potential in Buffalo. McGahee racked up less than four yards per carry in his last two seasons with the Bills, but he was the centerpiece of a struggling offense stuck running behind a below-average offensive line. McGahee is quicker than the departed Jamal Lewis, who has lost a step in recent years, and a change of scenery could be just what he needs. With only 868 career carries, and with four-plus years between him and the serious knee injury that ended his playing days at Miami (Fla.), McGahee could be primed to turn around a career that has lost a little luster of late. Musa Smith and Mike Anderson will compete to be McGahee's backup. Smith made

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

OFFENSIVE MVP  
QB  
**STEVE MCNAIR**

DEFENSIVE MVP  
S  
**ED NEED**

BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER

**WR MARK CLAYTON**  
Clayton took a big step forward in his second NFL season, and he could supplant Derrick Mason as the team's go-to target.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
OLB:  
**JARRET JOHNSON & DAN CODY**  
Johnson has an edge in the battle to replace Adalius Thomas, but Cody — if healthy — could push for playing time.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS  
RB Willis McGahee.

KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES  
DT Aubrayo Franklin, RB Jamal Lewis, OG Edwin Mulitalo, FB Ovie Mughelli, OT Tony Pashos, OLB Adalius Thomas.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Ben Grubbs	OG	Auburn	29
3	Yamon Figurs	WR	Kansas State	74
3	Marshal Yanda	OG	Iowa	86
4	Antwan Barnes	OLB	Florida Intl.	134
4	Le'Ron McClain	FB	Alabama	137
5	Troy Smith	QB	Ohio State	174
6	Prescott Burgess	OLB	Michigan	207



a nice impression last preseason, and his name was being dropped as a sleeper to watch in 2006. But Smith hasn't been able to stay healthy throughout his Baltimore career, and last season was no different, as a neck stinger knocked him out of action. Anderson carried only 39 times last season; if Smith can mount any sort of serious challenge for the backup's job, Anderson could end up as the team's third back. P.J. Daniels is another player to watch. He was not a factor as a rookie, but he could force his way into the backup discussion. Justin Green and rookie Le'Ron McClain will compete to replace Ovie Mughelli at fullback. McClain is a non-sense competitor who could become McGahee's bodyguard the way Alan Ricard was in Lewis' heyday.

**RECEIVERS** • The Ravens have accumulated pass-catching talent over the years, and they are reaping the rewards. For far too long, TE Todd Heap was the only consistent receiver a Ravens quarterback could turn to, but now Steve McNair drops back

and sees starter-caliber players everywhere. The Ravens don't send Heap downfield as much as they used to, but he still has the speed to keep linebackers and safeties honest. At wide receiver, Mark Clayton has passed Derrick Mason as the Ravens' wide receiver whom opponents fear most. Clayton is more quick than fast, but he runs excellent routes, and he is very much on the verge of stardom. Mason, the longtime Titans standout, has had his catches drop from 96 to 86 to 68 the past three seasons. At this point of his career, Mason is more a possession threat than anything else. Mason complained about not getting the ball enough in the loss to Indianapolis; should the Ravens reduce his role, it will be interesting to see if he handles it gracefully. Demetrius Williams will likely replace

Mason in the starting lineup when the time comes. Williams emerged as a big-play threat as a rookie. Clarence Moore and Devard Darling, once penciled in for bigger roles, provide depth at receiver. Third-round pick Yamon Figurs may also get a chance at receiver. Heap's top backup is Daniel Wilcox, who has produced when given a chance to play.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • OLT Jonathan Ogden will return for a 12th NFL season. Ogden is the leader of a Baltimore offensive line that allowed only 17 sacks in 2006. Ogden is smart, strong and technically sound, and he's not shy about offering in-game adjustments to the coaching staff. Adam Terry, a 2005 second-rounder, is likely to get the call at right tackle. He replaces Tony Pashos, who signed with Jacksonville. The Ravens have to hope Terry follows Pashos' career path; Pashos made himself into a starter-caliber tackle, and Terry has a ways to go in his development. That said, he made some nice strides last season. Jason Brown is likely to replace the departed Edwin Mulitalo at left guard. At center, veteran Mike Flynn could be pushed in time by young, athletic Chris Chester, who just needs some seasoning and some time in the weight room. Flynn, who will be 33 by the start of the season, can be engulfed by space-eating defensive tackles. ORG Keydrick Vincent is the weak link on the line, and first-round pick Ben

Grubbs is likely to have every chance to push him out of the starting lineup. Grubbs has very good athleticism for the position and became more powerful and strong in his final collegiate season. Third-rounder Marshal Yanda, who played right tackle in his final season at Iowa, will provide depth at guard. Yanda doesn't have Grubbs' athleticism, but he works extremely hard and could develop into a starter in the years to come.

## Defense

Ravens defensive coordinator Rex Ryan once said about his defense, "We like to attack people. We like to dictate the pace of a football game. We don't like when an opponent tries to do that." Ryan is one of



the most aggressive and creative defensive tacticians in the game because he has the personnel to do so. At their best, the Ravens stuff the run, harass quarterbacks and force turnovers. They intimidate.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The Ravens list Trevor Pryce as a defensive end, but he played more than half of his snaps at tackle last season, and he thrived in the role of inside pass rusher. The Ravens turned him loose and let him go after the quarterback — that's his best role, and Baltimore reaped the benefits. NT Kelly Gregg plays with natural leverage, which makes up for his lack of size. You're not going to see him quit on many plays. The Ravens traded up to get Haloti Ngata last April, and they are pleased they did. Ngata exceeded expectations as a rookie, and the Ravens believe he'll be a Pro Bowl performer before long. Ngata is a massive run-stuffer who can be downright dominant when focused. Dwan Edwards is Baltimore's top DL reserve. He has been a disappointment to date. The loss of Aubrayo Franklin weakens Baltimore's depth in the middle.

**LINEBACKERS** • The player to watch is ILB Bart Scott, whom Rex Ryan could start to use like the departed Adalius Thomas in some packages. Thomas could play just about everywhere in Baltimore's defense; although the 6-2, 240-pound Scott isn't that versatile, he can get after the quarterback, both as a blitz and as a rather small, unconventional edge rusher. The Browns particularly had a devil of a

time trying to stop him last season. Scott lines up next to the legendary Ray Lewis, who enjoyed something of a resurgence last season. When Lewis is kept clean, he's a force, but he doesn't quite have the wheels he once did. Jarrett Johnson, a converted defensive end, will likely step into Thomas' spot at right outside linebacker. Dan Cody could push Johnson. Johnson is

not as athletic as Thomas, and Ryan will use him more conservatively. LOLB Terrell Suggs is at his most dangerous in a three-point stance, but he's getting better at the finer points of pass coverage. He defended a career-high eight passes last season. Dennis Haley, Gary Stills and rookie Antwan Barnes provide depth at linebacker.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • FS Ed Reed is the standard-bearer at his position. He is one of the few safeties who deserve to be paid like a cornerback. Reed hits like a strong safety, covers ground like a cornerback and helps give Rex Ryan all the more confidence to take chances in the front seven. SS Dawan Landry had a spectacular rookie season and gave the Ravens the physical, play-making presence that predecessor Will Delpis didn't always provide. Landry, like Reed, intercepted five passes last season. Improved focus helped LCB Chris McAlister have one of the finest seasons of his career in 2006. McAlister is the quintessential bump-and-run corner.

Speedy receivers can give him trouble, however. RCB Samari Rolle's play really fell off last season, and the Ravens will have to start grooming a replacement. David Pittman, a 2006 third-round selection, could fight for a bigger role this season, but he disappointed as a rookie. Ronnie Prude, Corey Ivy, Derrick Martin and Evan

Oglesby are the reserve options at cornerback, and Gerome Sapp is the top backup safety.

## Special teams

In his last 31 regular-season games, PK Matt Stover has hit 58-of-61 FG attempts. Stover is 39 years old, and he is likely to have a job into his forties as long as he keeps nailing even 80 percent of his attempts. Stover also handled kick-offs, averaging 63.1 yards. P Sam Koch posted a net average of 37.6 on 86 punts as a rookie. RS B.J. Sams, whose '06 season was ended by a broken leg, could be pushed by third-round pick Yamon Figurs, who has been clocked at 4.34 in the 40.

## Summary

These Ravens won't sneak up on anyone, not with that defense and not with Steve McNair at the controls of the offense. How the Ravens fare against their division foes will likely be a handy indicator of their fortunes. If Baltimore is pushing around Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, then the Ravens will be back in business.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	
Score	27-0	28-6	15-14	16-13	3-13	21-23	33-22	26-20	27-26	24-10	27-0	27-0	7-13	20-10	27-17	31-7	19-7	
Total net yards	271	264	340	206	257	292	293	374	421	328	275	316	376	373	359	327	5072	
Rushing yards	103	138	86	56	103	80	137	129	50	103	114	89	93	142	103	111	1637	
Passing yards	168	126	254	150	154	212	156	245	371	225	161	227	283	231	256	216	3435	
Rushing plays	34	31	27	21	25	22	39	38	21	31	35	20	34	35	33	30	476	
Sacks allowed	1	2	2	2	2	3	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	17	
Had intercepted	0	1	0	2	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	14	
Fumbles lost	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	9	
Yards penalized	25	72	30	30	15	40	69	81	91	56	87	64	75	30	89	24	878	
Punts	6	7	6	7	6	5	6	4	5	4	6	7	4	5	4	4	86	

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	
Time of pos.***	24:11	27:59	28:09	33:42	28:22	33:49	23:14	22:36	30:44	23:17	25:14	29:11	26:31	29:48	24:38	23:39	27:12	
Total net yards	142	162	288	284	222	414	403	275	367	186	172	294	276	236	251	253	4225	
Rushing yards	26	39	38	150	116	58	35	93	162	104	21	67	135	68	63	39	1214	
Passing yards	116	123	250	134	106	356	368	182	205	82	151	227	141	168	188	214	3011	
Rushing plays	13	26	19	40	28	30	14	22	38	25	11	23	30	16	18	14	367	
Sacks allowed	3	6	7	1	1	1	2	2	2	5	9	2	5	6	5	3	60	
Had intercepted	3	3	1	1	1	2	4	2	1	0	2	0	2	2	2	2	28	
Fumbles lost	0	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	12	
Yards penalized	21	45	17	78	25	20	68	40	20	47	28	35	35	50	32	19	580	
Punts	8	4	8	5	4	3	2	4	5	6	7	6	3	7	7	7	86	

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	AT BAL	
Anderson	7-25-0	1-34-1		1-0-0	5-31-0	6-7-0			4-18-0				3-22-0	3-5-0	2-32-0		39-183-1	
Boller	4-(-2)-0					6-27-0		4-9-0	1-3-0			3-(-3)-0		9-12-0			22-34-0	
J. Lewis	18-78-1	19-70-0	21-86-0	15-34-0	15-43-0	9-41-0	31-109-0	24-72-1	16-45-0	22-91-3	17-66-1	17-61-0	24-81-1	22-109-1	24-77-1	20-69-0	314-1132-9	
McNair	2-4-0	4-10-0	2-(-2)-0	2-11-0	2-15-0		5-23-1	7-12-0	2-9-0	3-(-2)-0		2-27-0	7-12-0			5-10-0	45-119-1	
Mughelli											4-21-0	1-1-0	1-3-0		4-21-0	2-4-0	12-50-0	
Mu. Smith	2-6-0	7-24-0	3-8-0	2-14-0	3-14-0	1-5-0	3-5-0	3-46-0		5-19-0	7-12-0						36-153-0	
Boller						17-31-1	226-3				3-3-0			13-21-1			33-55-2	
McNair	17-27-0	16-33-1	23-41-0	17-30-2	20-34-3	2-4-1	17-23-0	21-31-0	29-47-2	24-34-0	18-24-0	26-43-0	21-27-0	0-4-0	21-31-2	23-35-1	295-468-12	
	181-1	143-1	264-1	158-2	165-0	4-0	159-2	245-0	373-3	236-0	140-1	227-1	283-1	0-0	256-3	216-0	3050-16	
Anderson		1-7-0								2-1-0	2-14-0	1-13-0			1-4-0	2-15-0	9-54-0	
Clayton	2-18-0	1-30-0	8-74-0	4-37-0	5-27-0	5-101-2	1-17-0	8-73-0	7-125-1	5-89-0	2-31-0	4-29-0	5-112-1	1-42-0	7-108-1	2-26-0	67-939-5	
Heap	5-46-0	5-17-1	5-36-1	4-60-1	3-21-0	5-55-1	3-47-1	4-84-0	4-49-0	6-62-0	7-58-1	4-29-0	4-33-0	5-58-0	4-50-0	5-60-0	73-765-6	
J. Lewis					1-1-0	3-9-0		3-15-0	1-5-0	3-17-0	1-4-0	2-26-0	1-5-0	2-21-0	1-12-0	1-11-0	18-115-0	
Mason	4-50-0	5-46-0	7-132-0	4-37-0	3-45-0		6-67-0	2-20-0	8-84-1	3-28-0	5-43-0	7-90-1	5-68-0	2-20-0	2-10-0	5-30-0	68-750-2	
Moore							2-1-1										2-1-1	
Mughelli								1-3-0	3-44-1	2-14-0	1-11-0	3-20-0	3-15-0	2-13-1	1-13-0	5-49-0	21-182-2	
Mu. Smith	1-4-0	2-33-0	2-12-0	1-1-0	6-53-0	1-(-2)-0	2-6-0		1-5-0	3-12-0	1-4-0	2-7-0					22-135-0	
Wilcox	3-52-1		1-10-0	3-17-1	2-18-0	3-20-0	2-9-0	1-19-0	1-6-0	1-7-0			1-3-0		2-5-1		20-166-3	
Williams	1-9-0	1-9-0		1-6-0		1-35-0	1-12-0	2-31-0	4-75-0	1-7-0	1-7-0	2-12-0	1-33-0	2-100-1	2-45-1	2-15-0	22-396-2	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Brian Billick

# Baltimore Ravens

1 Winning Drive  
Owings Mills, MD 21117  
410/701-4000  
Official Website: www.baltimoreravens.com  
Stadium: M&T Bank Stadium  
Capacity: 70,107  
Playing surface: Sportex Momentum Turf  
2006 record: 13-10; First in AFC North

**Owner:** Steve Bisciotti; **Minority owner:** Arthur B. Modell; **President:** Dick Cass; **General manager-executive vice president:** Ozzie Newsome; **Director of college scouting:** Eric DeCosta; **Director of pro personnel:** George Kokinis

**Head coach:** Brian Billick

**Assistant coaches:** Clarence Brooks, *defensive line*; Mark Carrier, *secondary*; John Fassel, *asst. special teams*; Jedd Fisch, *asst. wide receivers/quarterbacks*; Jeff FitzGerald, *linebackers*; Chris Foerster, *offensive line/asst. head coach*; Jeff Friday, *strength and conditioning*; Frank Ganz Jr., *special-teams coordinator*; Wade Harman, *light ends/asst. offensive line*; Mike Johnson, *wide receivers*; Tony Nathan, *running backs*; Rick Neuheisel, *offensive coordinator*; Mike Pettine, *outside linebackers*; Paul Ricci, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Rex Ryan, *defensive coordinator*; Greg Roman, *asst. offensive line*; Dennis Thurman, *secondary*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE			
WR	89 CLAYTON	84 Moore	16 Figsurs*
OLT	75 OGDEN	78 Terry	
OLG	60 BROWN	66 Grubbs*	63 Ndukwe
C	62 FLYNN	65 Chester	
ORG	68 VINCENT	66 Grubbs*	73 Yanda*
ORT	78 TERRY	74 Kracalik	
TE	86 HEAP	83 Wilcox	88 Sypniewski
WR	85 MASON	87 Williams	81 Darling
QB	9 MCNAIR	7 Boller	11 T. Smith*
RB	23 MCGAHEE	38 Anderson	32 Mu. Smith 30 Daniels
FB	33 GREEN	37 McClain*	
DEFENSE			
DLE	90 PRYCE	93 Edwards	71 King
NT	97 GREGG	94 Bannan	
DRE	92 NGATA	93 Edwards	71 King
LOLB	55 SUGGS	53 Cody	56 Stills 54 Burgess*
LILB	57 SCOTT	58 Haley	
RILB	52 LEWIS	58 Haley	51 Mi. Smith
ROLB	95 JOHNSON	53 Cody	50 Barnes*
LCB	21 MCALISTER	24 Pittman	27 Prude 25 Oglesby
RCB	22 HOLLY	35 Ivy	29 Martin 28 Winborne
SS	26 LANDRY	42 Sapp	
FS	20 REED	42 Sapp	
SPECIALISTS			
P	4 KOCH		
PK	3 STOVER		
H	4 KOCH	7 Boller	
PR	36 SAMS	40 Ross	16 Figsurs*
KR	36 SAMS	40 Ross	16 Figsurs*
LS	70 KATULA		

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 10	at Cincinnati	7 p.m.
Sept. 16	N.Y. Jets	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	Arizona	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Cleveland	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	at San Francisco	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 14	St. Louis	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Buffalo	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	BYE	
Nov. 5	at Pittsburgh	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 11	Cincinnati	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 18	Cleveland	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at San Diego	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 3	New England	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 9	Indianapolis	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 16	at Miami	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Seattle	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	Pittsburgh	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Baltimore

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Tampa Bay	(+3)	27-0
Sept. 17	Oakland	(-13)	28-6
Sept. 24	At Cleveland	(-7)	15-14
Oct. 1	San Diego	(0)	16-13
Oct. 9	At Denver	(+5)	3-13
Oct. 15	Carolina	(-3)	21-23
Oct. 22	BYE		
Oct. 29	At New Orleans	(+2.5)	35-22
Nov. 5	Cincinnati	(-3)	26-20
Nov. 12	At Tennessee	(-7)	27-26
Nov. 19	Atlanta	(-3.5)	24-10
Nov. 26	Pittsburgh	(-3)	27-0
Nov. 30	At Cincinnati	(+3)	7-13
Dec. 10	At Kansas City	(+3)	20-10
Dec. 17	Cleveland	(-12.5)	27-17
Dec. 24	At Pittsburgh	(+4)	31-7
Dec. 31	Buffalo	(-9.5)	19-7
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 13	Indianapolis	(-4)	6-15

## RAVENS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
43	Abiamiri, Rob	TE	6-2	240	1	Maryland	0/0
38	Anderson, Mike	RB	6-0	230	8	Utah	16/0
94	Bannan, Justin	DT	6-3	305	6	Colorado	12/1
50	Barnes, Antwan	LB	6-1	240	R	Florida International	
7	Boller, Kyle	QB	6-3	220	5	California	4/0
60	Brown, Jason	OG-C	6-3	320	3	North Carolina	16/12
14	Bryant, Romby	WR	6-1	181	1	Tulsa	0/0
54	Burgess, Prescott	LB	6-3	240	R	Michigan	
65	Chester, Chris	C-OG	6-3	305	2	Oklahoma	11/4
89	Clayton, Mark	WR	5-10	195	3	Oklahoma	16/12
53	Cody, Dan	LB-DE	6-5	255	3	Oklahoma	2/0
48	Cottrell, Jim	LB-DE	6-1	245	1	New Mexico State	0/0
30	Daniels, P.J.	RB	5-10	214	2	Georgia Tech	0/0
81	Darling, Devard	WR	6-1	215	4	Washington State	1/0
93	Edwards, Dwan	DT	6-3	315	4	Oregon State	8/0
72	Ellison, Atiyah	DT	6-3	318	3	Missouri	0/0
16	Figsurs, Yamon	WR-RS	5-11	175	R	Kansas State	
62	Flynn, Mike	C	6-3	305	10	Maine	16/16
33	Green, Justin	FB	5-11	251	3	Montana	12/3
97	Gregg, Kelly	DT	6-1	310	8	Oklahoma	16/16
66	Grubbs, Ben	OG	6-3	315	R	Auburn	
58	Haley, Dennis	LB	6-1	247	2	Virginia	9/0
86	Heap, Todd	TE	6-5	252	7	Arizona State	16/16
35	Ivy, Corey	CB	5-9	188	7	Oklahoma	13/0
95	Johnson, Jarret	OLB-DE	6-3	270	5	Alabama	16/2
70	Katula, Matt	LS	6-6	272	3	Wisconsin	16/0
71	King, Kenny	DE	6-4	284	4	Alabama	0/0
4	Koch, Sam	P	6-1	230	2	Nebraska	16/0
74	Kracalik, Michael	OT	6-8	337	1	San Diego State	1/0
26	Landry, Dawan	S	6-1	220	2	Georgia Tech	16/14
52	Lewis, Ray	LB	6-1	250	12	Miami (Fla.)	14/14
29	Martin, Derrick	CB	5-10	202	2	Wyoming	9/0
85	Mason, Derrick	WR	5-10	192	11	Michigan State	16/15
21	McAlister, Chris	CB	6-1	206	9	Arizona	16/16
37	McClain, Le'Ron	FB	6-0	260	R	Alabama	
23	McGahee, Willis	RB	6-1	232	5	Miami (Fla.)	14/14
9	McNair, Steve	QB	6-2	230	13	Alcorn State	16/16
84	Moore, Clarence	WR	6-6	220	4	Northern Arizona	10/1
63	Ndukwe, Ikechuku	OG-C	6-4	338	2	Northwestern	5/0
92	Ngata, Haloti	DT	6-4	340	2	Oregon	16/16
75	Ogden, Jonathan	OT	6-9	345	12	UCLA	14/14
25	Oglesby, Evan	CB	5-10	185	2	North Alabama	16/0
10	Olson, Drew	QB	6-2	222	1	UCLA	0/0
76	Pino, Chris	OL	6-5	315	1	San Diego State	0/0
24	Pittman, David	CB	5-11	182	2	Northwestern State	0/0
27	Prude, Ronnie	CB	5-11	178	2	LSU	15/0
90	Pryce, Trevor	DE	6-5	286	11	Clemson	16/16
20	Reed, Ed	S	5-11	200	6	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
69	Rimpf, Brian	OG	6-5	319	4	East Carolina	0/0
22	Rolle, Samari	CB	6-0	175	10	Florida State	16/16
40	Ross, Cory	RB	5-6	201	2	Nebraska	4/0
36	Sams, B.J.	CB-RS	5-10	185	4	McNeese State	12/0
42	Sapp, Gerome	S	6-1	216	5	Notre Dame	15/1
57	Scott, Bart	LB	6-2	240	6	Southern Illinois	16/16
51	Smith, Mike	LB	6-1	235	3	Texas Tech	8/0
32	Smith, Musa	RB	6-0	232	5	Georgia	12/0
11	Smith, Troy	QB	6-0	225	R	Ohio State	
56	Stills, Gary	LB-DE	6-2	250	9	West Virginia	16/0
3	Stover, Matt	PK	5-11	178	18	Louisiana Tech	16/0
55	Suggs, Terrell	LB-DE	6-3	260	5	Arizona State	16/15
88	Sypniewski, Quinn	TE	6-6	270	2	Colorado	16/3
78	Terry, Adam	OT	6-8	330	3	Syracuse	15/2
68	Vincent, Keydrick	OG	6-5	325	7	Mississippi	12/12
83	Wilcox, Daniel	TE	6-1	245	5	Appalachian State	14/6
87	Williams, Demetrius	WR	6-2	197	2	Oregon	16/0
28	Winborne, Jamaine	CB	5-10	202	3	Virginia	1/0
73	Yanda, Marshall	OG	6-4	310	R	Iowa	



# CINCINNATI BENGALS



TUSP

QB CARSON PALMER

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **10-6** 2nd place /  
AFC North

The 2006 Bengals were perhaps the NFL's most maddening team.

Cincinnati won its first three games and appeared poised to put up a strong defense of its 2005 AFC North title. But the Bengals then dropped five of six games, four by eight points or less, and held a 4-5 record entering mid-November.

Bengals fans know what happened next: QB Carson Palmer and WR Chad Johnson spearheaded a four-

game winning streak to put Cincinnati in prime playoff position as Christmas approached.

Then, the bottom fell out.

The Bengals were drilled at Indianapolis, lost a heartbreaker at Denver and blew a chance to beat hated rival Pittsburgh in the final moments of regulation. That left Marvin Lewis' club at 8-8 and home for the postseason.

At times, the results on the field were overshadowed by the team's conduct off the gridiron. A string of player arrests embarrassed the franchise and left Lewis — the public face

of the organization — frustrated with his players and the unending local and national focus on his team's character.

No one doubts the Bengals' ability to win a high-paced, offense-driven game. But are they tough and diligent enough to be Super Bowl contenders?

## Offense

With the exception of Indianapolis, no AFC team has as much offensive talent as Cincinnati. The Bengals have just about everything you would want in an offense: a blue-chip quarterback (Carson Palmer), an excellent WR corps, a workhorse running back (Rudi Johnson) and a very good





offensive line.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ QB Carson Palmer had a remarkable 2006 season. Less than a year removed from a serious knee injury, Palmer started every game and returned to previous form. However, he did not finish the season strongly, and he especially struggled in the final three games, all Cincinnati losses. But it must be noted that Palmer did not have the benefit of an offseason program, and he did not get as much work as he typically would in training camp and the preseason. Indeed, it was touch-and-go until the final weeks of the preseason as to whether Palmer would be ready for the season opener. Palmer is strong-armed, cerebral and of strong character, and he has grown into the leadership role a quarterback must take on. He is perhaps at his most dangerous when he's operating from the no-huddle; it's a package that has worked well the past two seasons. If there are concerns with Palmer, it's his injury history and a slight increase in turnovers in '06. Palmer lost seven fumbles last season after losing only four total in 2005 and '06. Palmer also threw 13 interceptions. Palmer is no threat to run from the pocket, and he will stand and deliver. Doug Johnson could replace the departed Anthony Wright as Palmer's top backup, but he's best as a third quarterback. Rookie Jeff Rowe is a developmental prospect.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Evaluators say Rudi Johnson is one of the most underrated players at his position. Johnson isn't flashy, but he's productive and durable. Since the Bengals gave Johnson the starting job three seasons ago, he has never missed a game, and he has carried more than 335 times in each of those campaigns. The 5-10, 228-pounder is built like a fire hydrant, and his strong lower body allows him to break and run through tackles. He is fast to the hole and generally gets the most of every carry. Johnson also plays well against top competition. He is no burner — his longest run in the past two seasons is 33 yards — and he has battled nagging injuries. Second-round pick

Kenny Irons will push to be Johnson's primary backup, as veteran Chris Perry may not be ready for the start of training camp because of a right ankle injury. Irons is naturally talented and could thrive as a part-time player. When healthy, Perry is one of the AFC's better change-of-pace backs. Reserve RB Kenny Watson is a steady performer who is a major asset on special teams. FB Jeremi Johnson didn't have as prominent a role in the offense in 2006, but he remains one of the more well-rounded players at his position.

**RECEIVERS** ■ At 29, Chad Johnson is in the prime of his career, and he's showing no signs of slowing down. Johnson wasn't at his best at the beginning of the 2006 season — he struggled to get back into rhythm with QB Carson Palmer, and defenses were quite physical with him — but he kicked it into high gear down the stretch. Johnson is

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
QB **CARSON PALMER**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DE **JUSTIN SMITH**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
CB **JOHNATHAN JOSEPH**

Joseph impressed as a rookie and will be expected to play a major role for a secondary in need of help.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
OLG  
**ANDREW WHITWORTH**  
VS. **STACY ANDREWS**

Whitworth and Andrews were drafted to be tackles, but they will compete to fill the void left by Eric Steinbach.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
C Alex Stepanovich, DL Michael Myers.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
S Kevin Kaesviharn, LB Brian Simmons, OG Eric Steinbach, DT Shaun Smith, TE Tony Stewart, WR Kelley Washington.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Leon Hall	CB	Michigan	18
2	Kenny Irons	RB	Auburn	49
4	Marvin White	SS	Texas Christian	114
5	Jeff Rowe	QB	Nevada	151
6	Matt Toeaina	DT	Oregon	187
7	Dan Santucci	OG	Notre Dame	230
7	Nedu Ndukwe	S	Notre Dame	253



an outstanding route runner and boasts excellent body control. He has good quickness and deep speed. T.J. Houshmandzadeh is an excellent complement to Johnson. Houshmandzadeh isn't especially quick, but scouts love his route running and hands. He simply doesn't make many mistakes. No. 3 WR Chris Henry may be more physically gifted than Houshmandzadeh, but the Bengals simply can't depend on him to play all 16 regular-season games. Henry will miss the first eight games after being suspended by the NFL in April.

Henry is as dangerous as any No. 3 receiver in the league, an impressive blend of size, speed and leaping ability who is almost always going to draw a good matchup with Johnson and Houshmandzadeh drawing so much attention. That said, Henry doesn't always play hard. Tab Perry, Glenn Holt, Reggie McNeal and Antonio Chatman are also in the mix at wide receiver. Perry and Chatman are the most likely candidates to pick up the slack while Henry

is out. The Bengals haven't had a pass-catching threat at tight end in some time, but veteran Reggie Kelly is one of the best blockers at his position, and that's his primary role.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The retirement of C Rich Braham and the departure of OLG Eric Steinbach weakens this group, but the Bengals believe they have good replacements for both players. Andrew Whitworth is likely to take over for Steinbach, and he should fit in well inside. Whitworth filled in for OLT Levi Jones for much of last season and acquitted himself well. Whitworth is strong and whip-smart, and his skill set translates well to guard. Whitworth is also a starter-caliber left tackle, and he would likely slide over and fill in for Jones in the event Jones had to leave the lineup. Eric Ghiaciuc learned on the job for much of last season, and he was overmatched early on, so much so that the Bengals contemplated benching him. But Ghiaciuc got it together, and he has a leg up for the starting job in 2007. ORG Bobbie Williams is solid, steady and tough. Jones comes off a lost 2006 season, as he missed much of the campaign with a knee injury. Evaluators regard Jones highly; he has done a great job protecting QB Carson Palmer's blind side the past three seasons. Jones handles speed-rushers well. The right tackle, Willie Anderson, is still playing at a high level after all these years. Anderson is a force in the running game. He is a vocal leader who plays hurt and doesn't make many mistakes. Stacy Andrews is the top reserve at tackle and could be a factor at left guard. He is big but raw. Ben Wilkerson and Alex Stepanovich provide depth at center.

## Defense

Marvin Lewis' five drafts in Cincinnati haven't bolstered the roster with the defensive talent he had anticipated, and as a result, the Bengals have been a below-average defense for much of his tenure. Indeed, the Bengals' best defensive player, DE Justin Smith, was on the roster when Lewis took over in 2003. Lewis and defensive coordinator Chuck Bresnahan are banking on some of the team's young talent to step forward this season.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Cincinnati has one of the league's better 4-3 DE tandems in Justin Smith and Robert Geathers. Smith gets high marks from scouts for his competitive fire, hustle and solid all-around play. Smith can do a bit of everything. He has never notched double-digit sacks, but he is a respected pass-rushing threat nonetheless. His strength, however, is playing the run. He does not quit on plays. Geathers notched a career-high 10½ sacks last season. He is most effective at around 265 pounds; his forte is getting to the quarterback. Bryan Robinson, who rotates at left end with Geathers, weighs about 40 pounds more. A former defensive tackle, Robinson



is a tough run defender. DT Sam Adams is getting up in age, but he remains an effective run-stuffer. The other projected starter at defensive tackle, John Thornton, picked up his play in 2006. However, he could be pushed by second-year player Domata Peko. Former Broncos DT Michael Myers adds depth.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ The Bengals have tried to build the depth and talent at this position with mixed results. Veteran Brian Simmons was released, a move that paves the way for second-year MLB Ahmad Brooks to step into a bigger role. There is no doubting Brooks' natural talent — he's big, fast and instinctive, and observers who watched him in the summer of 2006 came away convinced he could be a special player. If he is ready for a starting role, he could have the impact Odell Thurman had on the defense in 2005. At 6-3, 259 pounds, Brooks could be the run-stuffing linebacker Lewis has sought for all these years in Cincinnati. Landon Johnson could get the call at weak-side linebacker. Johnson improved in 2006, a fact that was not lost on scouts around the league. Johnson isn't an exceptional athlete, but he's cerebral, instinctive and productive, and his character receives high marks. SLB Rashad Jeanty, who started his career as a pass rusher in the pass-happy Canadian Football League, made a relatively smooth transition to the NFL in 2006. The wild card in the mix is diminutive Caleb Miller, who was productive filling in for Simmons at middle 'backer last season. Miller's best

role is probably as a fourth linebacker: he is slight-framed and wears down easily. Miller has struggled to stay healthy in the past. MLB A.J. Nicholson and OLB Andre Frazier provide depth.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ The Bengals finished tied for last in pass defense in 2006, a result that's hard to figure when looking at the talent on the roster. That said, the team's cornerbacks did have their problems. Deltha O'Neal comes off one of his worst seasons. He was beaten repeatedly, and he lost his starting job to rookie Johnathan Joseph. O'Neal could reclaim a starting spot, but he is likely to be tested early and often. O'Neal's technique and focus have been issues throughout his career. Joseph closes quickly on the ball, as evidenced by his 20 pass breakups. His hands leave something to be desired — he is still looking for his first career interception — but at only 23, Joseph appears to have a long career ahead of him as a lockdown-caliber cornerback. Leon Hall, the Bengals' 2007 first-rounder, will push for playing time from the outset. Hall is technically sound and ready to contribute. He could take playing time away from veteran Keiwan Ratliff. The Bengals have one of the AFC's best safety tandems in Madiue Williams and Dexter Jackson. Williams, the free safety, is both a strong run defender and a capable center-fielder. Scouts regard him as one of the league's finest at his position. Jackson, the strong safety, is best close to the line of

scrimmage, but he also covers relatively well. The Bengals' safety depth took a hit when Kevin Kaesviharn signed with New Orleans. Ethan Kilmer may be expected to pick up the slack, and rookie Marvin White is also in the mix.

## Special teams

PK Shayne Graham hit 25-of-30 field goals and averaged 63.9 yards on kickoffs, but his miss vs. Pittsburgh in the season finale cost the Bengals a postseason berth. P Kyle Larson has developed nicely. His net average has increased in each of his three NFL seasons. The Bengals don't have gamebreaking returners, although Tab Perry's return from injury should boost the team's efforts on kickoffs. Keiwan Ratliff is a functional punt returner, but the Bengals could use more speed and quickness at the position.

## Summary

Which way will the 2007 Bengals go? They could win the division and host a playoff game or two, or they could finish a well-beaten third. If they took their lessons from a frustrating 2006, they have a chance to be winners. If not, the questions about the direction of the franchise on Marvin Lewis' watch will be louder than ever. Finishing the fourth quarter of the season strong — something they failed to do a season ago — will be critical to their success.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																			TOTALS
OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17			
Score	23-10	34-17	28-20	13-38	13-14	17-14	27-29	20-26	41-49	31-16	30-0	13-7	27-10	16-34	23-24	17-23			
Total net yards	236	481	246	279	305	342	331	275	545	385	388	294	439	278	343	295	5462		
Rushing yards	116	160	87	71	53	112	73	93	128	119	88	67	136	133	149	44	1629		
Passing yards	120	321	159	208	252	230	258	182	417	266	300	227	303	145	194	251	3833		
Rushing plays	34	32	25	17	20	30	18	22	27	31	37	23	39	30	34	16	435		
Sacks allowed	1	4	6	4	2	2	2	2	3	1	1	2	0	4	2	0	36		
Had intercepted	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	3	0	2	0	13		
Fumbles lost	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	11		
Yards penalized	40	49	45	74	84	55	30	40	44	10	75	35	40	10	46	40	717		
Punts	5	4	5	6	7	8	4	4	3	6	4	6	0	4	5	6	77		
OPPONENT STATISTICS																			TOTALS
Time of poss.***	31:57	25:55	33:51	33:56	35:07	25:28	37:08	37:24	28:42	33:33	22:10	30:49	24:15	33:04	29:51	39:40	31:26		
Total net yards	289	301	365	424	300	277	420	374	431	595	203	316	223	394	287	482	5681		
Rushing yards	113	57	170	236	126	60	143	129	107	91	51	89	45	112	127	207	1863		
Passing yards	176	244	195	188	174	217	277	245	324	504	152	227	178	282	160	275	3818		
Rushing plays	25	20	38	41	25	16	38	38	26	23	14	20	16	29	34	45	448		
Sacks allowed	7	0	3	0	2	3	2	0	3	2	4	0	4	1	3	1	35		
Had intercepted	1	2	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	4	0	1	0	1	1	19		
Fumbles lost	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12		
Yards penalized	40	27	25	61	75	41	75	81	45	25	93	64	38	35	10	101	836		
Punts	4	6	2	3	7	8	3	4	5	5	4	7	2	2	6	4	72		
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																			TOTALS
RUSHING																			
J. Johnson							2-9-0	3-9-1	1-6-0	2-5-0	4-23-0	1-0-0	1-4-0			1-0-0	15-56-1		
R. Johnson	28-96-1	26-145-2	19-47-0	14-65-1	17-52-0	26-101-0	12-46-1	18-78-1	18-85-1	27-111-0	25-64-1	16-47-0	30-117-2	22-79-1	30-129-1	13-47-0	341-1309-12		
Palmer	2-(-1)-0	3-1-0	3-5-0		2-1-0		1-6-0	1-7-0	1-5-0	1-3-0	2-(-1)-0	2-0-0	3-(-3)-0		1-11-0	2-6-0	2-(-3)-0		
C. Perry							2-4-0	2-11-0	1-1-0	4-31-0		1-10-0					10-57-0		
Watson	2-7-1	1-10-0	3-35-0	1-4-0		1-1-0	1-3-0				5-12-0		5-22-0	4-30-0	2-14-0		25-138-1		
PASSING **																			TOTALS
Palmer	13-19-0	24-40-2	18-26-2	20-35-0	24-37-0	23-39-0	24-36-0	12-26-2	31-42-0	14-22-1	25-32-1	21-32-0	20-28-3	14-28-0	21-40-2	20-38-0	324-520-13		
Wright	127-0	352-2	193-4	245-0	261-1	240-2	266-2	194-1	440-3	275-3	275-3	234-1	297-2	176-0	209-2	251-2	4035-28		
											2-2-0		1-1-0				3-3-0		
											25-0		6-0				31-0		
RECEIVING																			TOTALS
Henry	1-(-5)-0	5-113-0	5-69-2				5-81-1	2-79-0	2-18-1	2-24-0	5-41-2		2-31-1		3-30-1	4-124-1	36-605-9		
Houshmandzadeh			9-94-2	4-95-0	10-102-1	7-61-1	6-70-0	3-66-1	7-88-0	2-15-0	7-79-1		10-106-1	8-118-1	4-49-0	9-94-1	90-1081-9		
C. Johnson	5-48-0	6-78-1	1-11-0	6-64-0	6-99-0	6-73-0	6-78-1	4-31-0	11-260-2	6-190-3	7-123-0		8-91-0	5-101-0	3-37-0	3-32-0	4-53-0		
J. Johnson				1-6-0	1-2-0									3-23-0	1-6-0		6-37-0		
R. Johnson	1-7-0	2-3-0	2-10-0	3-26-0			1-4-0	2-9-0	1-2-0	1-4-0	1-7-0	1-0-0	2-17-0	1-5-0	2-17-0	2-11-0	1-3-0		
Kelly	1-9-0	2-35-0			1-27-0		3-34-1	1-8-0	2-16-0	3-31-0	1-32-0	3-25-0			1-11-0	2-23-0	1-4-0		
C. Perry						3-26-0	2-12-0			3-(-1)-0	1-5-0						9-42-0		
Perry	2-44-0	3-37-0															6-81-0		
Stewart	1-7-0	1-9-0		2-10-0		2-33-0	2-9-0			1-26-0		2-15-0			1-7-0	2-4-1	14-120-1		
Washington	1-10-0	5-77-1		3-28-0													9-115-1		
Watson	1-8-0		1-9-0	1-16-0	4-18-0					3-14-0	1-2-0	1-14-0	1-20-0	2-25-0	3-56-0	1-12-0	4-19-0		

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Cincinnati Bengals

One Paul Brown Stadium  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
513/621-3550  
Official Website: www.bengals.com  
Stadium: Paul Brown Stadium  
Capacity: 65,500  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2005 record: 8-8; Second in AFC North

**President:** Mike Brown; **Executive vice president:** Katie Blackburn; **Senior vice president-player personnel:** Pete Brown; **Vice president-player personnel:** Paul Brown; **Director of football operations:** Jim Lippincott; **Director of player personnel:** Duke Tobin  
**Head coach:** Marvin Lewis

**Assistant coaches:** Paul Alexander, *asst. head coach/offensive line*; Jim Anderson, *running backs*; Bob Bratkowski, *offensive coordinator*; Chuck Bresnahan, *defensive coordinator*; Louie Cioffi, *asst. secondary*; Kevin Coyle, *secondary*; Paul Guenther, *asst. special teams/asst. linebackers*; Jay Hayes, *defensive line*; Jonathan Hayes, *tight ends*; Ricky Hunley, *linebackers*; Chip Morton, *strength and conditioning*; Ray Oliver, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Mike Sheppard, *wide receivers*; Darrin Simmons, *special teams*; Bob Surace, *asst. offensive line*; Ken Zampese, *quarterbacks*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

WR <b>85 C. JOHNSON</b>	88 T. Perry	15 Henry
OLT <b>76 L. JONES</b>	77 Whitworth	
OLG <b>77 WHITWORTH</b>	79 S. Andrews	65 Santucci*
C <b>53 GHIACIUC</b>	64 Wilkerson	69 Stepanovich
ORG <b>63 Bo. WILLIAMS</b>	79 S. Andrews	75 Kooistra
ORT <b>71 ANDERSON</b>	79 S. Andrews	75 Kooistra
TE <b>82 KELLY</b>	80 Ghent	
WR <b>84 HOUSHMANDZADEH</b>	83 Chatman	10 McNeal 16 Holt
QB <b>9 PALMER</b>	11 D. Johnson	3 Rowe*
RB <b>32 R. JOHNSON</b>	30 Irons*	23 C. Perry 33 Watson
FB <b>31 J. JOHNSON</b>	37 Manderino	

## DEFENSE

DLE <b>61 GEATHERS</b>	98 Robinson	68 Fanene
DLT <b>95 ADAMS</b>	96 Myers	94 Peko 66 Toeaina*
DRT <b>97 THORNTON</b>	94 Peko	66 Toeaina*
DRE <b>90 Ju. SMITH</b>	92 Rucker	
SLB <b>93 JEANTY</b>	52 Nicholson	57 Frazier 99 Pollack
MLB <b>50 A. BROOKS</b>	58 Miller	52 Nicholson
WLB <b>59 L. JOHNSON</b>	58 Miller	52 Nicholson
LCB <b>22 JOSEPH</b>	25 Ratliff	27 G. Brooks
RCB <b>24 O'NEAL</b>	29 Hall*	27 G. Brooks
SS <b>28 D. JACKSON</b>	43 Kilmer	36 Busing 44 Jones
FS <b>40 M. WILLIAMS</b>	43 Kilmer	26 M. White*

## SPECIALISTS

P <b>19 LARSON</b>	
PK <b>17 GRAHAM</b>	
H <b>19 LARSON</b>	
PR <b>25 RATLIFF</b>	83 Chatman
KR <b>88 T. PERRY</b>	33 Watson
LS <b>48 ST. LOUIS</b>	

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 10	Baltimore	7 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Cleveland	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Seattle	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 1	New England	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 7	BYE	
Oct. 14	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	N.Y. Jets	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 28	Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Buffalo	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Baltimore	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 18	Arizona	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	Tennessee	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Pittsburgh	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 9	St. Louis	1 p.m.
Dec. 15	at San Francisco	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 23	Cleveland	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Miami	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Cincinnati

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Kansas City	(-1)	23-10
Sept. 17	Cleveland	(-10)	34-17
Sept. 24	At Pittsburgh	(+2)	28-20
Oct. 1	New England	(-5.5)	13-38
Oct. 8	BYE		
Oct. 15	At Tampa Bay	(-4.5)	13-14
Oct. 22	Carolina	(-3)	17-14
Oct. 29	Atlanta	(-4)	27-29
Nov. 5	At Baltimore	(+3)	20-26
Nov. 12	San Diego	(+1)	41-49
Nov. 19	At New Orleans	(+3.5)	31-16
Nov. 26	At Cleveland	(-3)	30-0
Dec. 10	Baltimore	(-3)	13-7
Dec. 30	Oakland	(-10.5)	27-10
Dec. 18	At Indianapolis	(+3.5)	16-34
Dec. 24	At Denver	(+3)	23-24
Dec. 31	Pittsburgh	(-6)	17-23*

\* OVERTIME

## BENGALS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
95	Adams, Sam	DT	6-3	350	14	Texas A&M	16/16
71	Anderson, Willie	OT	6-5	340	12	Auburn	16/16
	Andrews, Bryan	DE	6-5	262	R	Wake Forest	
79	Andrews, Stacy	G	6-7	342	4	Mississippi	16/3
54	Berryman, Jason	LB	6-1	235	R	Iowa State	
81	Brazell, Bennie	WR	6-0	176	2	LSU	0/0
50	Brooks, Ahmad	LB	6-3	259	2	Virginia	11/5
27	Brooks, Greg	CB	5-11	182	4	Southern Mississippi	5/0
36	Busing, John	S	6-2	221	2	Miami (Ohio)	7/0
83	Chatman, Antonio	WR	5-8	182	5	Cincinnati	3/0
	Coats, Daniel	TE	6-3	257	R	Brigham Young	
49	Day, Tim	TE	6-3	255	1	Oregon	0/0
	Everett, Earl	LB	6-3	238	R	Florida	
68	Fanene, Jonathan	DE	6-4	295	2	Utah	4/0
57	Frazier, Andre	LB	6-5	234	3	Cincinnati	11/0
91	Geathers, Robert	DE	6-3	265	4	Georgia	16/0
80	Ghent, Ronnie	TE	6-2	253	1	Louisville	0/0
53	Ghiaciuc, Eric	C	6-4	302	3	Central Michigan	15/13
17	Graham, Shayne	PK	6-0	200	7	Virginia Tech	16/0
18	Green, Skyler	WR	5-9	190	2	LSU	2/0
89	Guenther, Gregg	TE	6-8	255	2	USC	0/0
29	Hall, Leon	CB	5-11	193	R	Michigan	
78	Henderson, Eric	DE	6-2	266	1	Georgia Tech	0/0
15	Henry, Chris	WR	6-4	200	3	West Virginia	13/4
	Holley, Jesse	WR	6-2	219	R	North Carolina	
16	Holt, Glenn	WR	6-1	193	2	Kentucky	11/0
84	Houshmandzadeh, T.J.	WR	6-1	199	7	Oregon State	14/13
30	Irons, Kenny	RB	5-11	205	R	Auburn	
28	Jackson, Dexter	S	6-0	210	9	Florida State	12/11
	Jackson, Xzavie	DE	6-3	278	R	Missouri	
93	Jeanty, Rashad	LB	6-2	245	2	Central Florida	12/9
85	Johnson, Chad	WR	6-1	192	7	Oregon State	16/16
11	Johnson, Doug	QB	6-2	218	7	Florida	0/0
31	Johnson, Jeremi	FB	5-11	260	5	Western Kentucky	16/11
59	Johnson, Landon	LB	6-2	228	4	Purdue	16/16
32	Johnson, Rudi	RB	5-10	214	7	Auburn	16/15
44	Jones, Herana-Daze	S	5-11	205	2	Indiana	16/0
76	Jones, Levi	OT	6-5	307	6	Arizona State	6/5
22	Joseph, Johnathan	CB	5-11	193	2	South Carolina	16/9
	Kays, Tony	WR	6-0	194	R	California-Davis	
82	Kelly, Reggie	TE	6-4	255	9	Mississippi State	16/16
70	Kieft, Adam	OT	6-7	328	3	Central Michigan	0/0
43	Kilmer, Ethan	S	6-0	204	2	Penn State	16/0
75	Kooistra, Scott	OT	6-6	320	5	North Carolina State	15/0
19	Larson, Kyle	P	6-1	204	4	Nebraska	16/0
62	Livingston, Nate	OG	6-4	315	1	LSU	0/0
37	Manderino, Chris	FB	6-0	233	1	California	0/0
10	McNeal, Reggie	WR	6-2	205	2	Texas A&M	7/0
58	Miller, Caleb	LB	6-3	225	4	Arkansas	16/7
47	Mulcahy, Sean	TE	6-5	260	1	Connecticut	0/0
	Muncy, Matt	LB	6-1	238	R	Ohio	
96	Myers, Michael	DT	6-2	300	10	Alabama	16/16
41	Ndukwe, Chinedum	S	6-2	219	R	Notre Dame	
52	Nicholson, A.J.	LB	6-1	240	2	Florida State	2/0
	Nikolaos, Harrison	OG	6-3	305	R	Eastern Washington	
24	O'Neal, Deltha	CB	5-11	194	8	California	12/7
9	Palmer, Carson	QB	6-5	230	5	USC	16/16
94	Peko, Domata	DT	6-3	319	4	Michigan State	16/1
23	Perry, Chris	RB	6-0	224	4	Michigan	6/1
88	Perry, Tab	WR	6-3	208	3	UCLA	2/0
99	Pollack, David	LB	6-2	255	3	Georgia	2/1
25	Ratliff, Kelwan	CB	5-11	188	4	Florida	16/0
73	Reuber, Alan	OT	6-6	307	2	Texas A&M	0/0
98	Robinson, Bryan	DE	6-4	304	11	Fresno State	16/16
3	Rowe, Jeff	QB	6-5	226	R	Nevada	
92	Rucker, Froste	DE	6-3	267	2	USC	0/0
65	Santucci, Dan	OG-C	6-3	301	R	Notre Dame	
	Seifert, Elliot	OT	6-7	308	R	Temple	
	Siskowic, Cameron	LB	6-1	228	R	Illinois State	
	Smith, Jeff	QB	6-5	235	R	Georgetown (Ky.)	
90	Smith, Justin	DE	6-4	275	7	Missouri	16/16
48	St. Louis, Brad	LS-TE	6-3	243	8	SW Missouri State	16/0
69	Stepanovich, Alex	C	6-4	312	3	Ohio State	5/5
97	Thornton, John	DT	6-3	297	9	West Virginia	15/15
66	Toeaina, Matt	DT	6-2	307	R	Oregon	
	Uperesa, Dane	OT	6-4	309	R	Hawaii	
96	Verdon, Jimmy	DE	6-3	280	1	Arizona State	0/0
33	Watson, Kenny	RB	6-0	218	6	Penn State	16/0
26	White, Marvin	S	6-1	199	R	TCU	
	White, Stan	FB	6-1	249	R	Ohio State	
30	Whitehead, Terrence	RB	5-10	215	2	Oregon	0/0
77	Whitworth, Andrew	OG-OT	6-7	339	2	LSU	16/12
64	Wilkerson, Ben	C	6-4	305	2	LSU	3/0
63	Williams, Bobbie	OG	6-4	345	8	Arkansas	13/13
29	Williams, Brandon	CB	5-11	186	1	Michigan	0/0
40	Williams, Madiou	S	6-1	203	4	Maryland	16/16
35	Wilson, Quincy	RB	5-9	220	2	West Virginia	3/0
	Wright, T.J.	CB	5-10	177	R	Ohio	



# PITTSBURGH STEELERS



ROBERT LUTER

QB BEN ROETHLISBERGER

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **7-9** 3rd place /  
AFC North

Nothing went according to plan for the 2006 Steelers.

The problems started in the offseason following its Super Bowl XL title. The team couldn't even revel in the afterglow as much as it would have liked. QB Ben Roethlisberger was involved in a motorcycle accident in June. He wasn't seriously hurt, but he lost training time. Even worse, a bout of appendicitis kept him out of the season opener.



All the while, questions lingered about head coach Bill Cowher's future with the club. When Cowher and the Steelers could not agree on a contract extension, the odds that he would be coaching his last season in Pittsburgh grew larger and larger.

On the field, the Steelers staggered through the first part of the season, winning only two of their first eight games. Their playoff hopes were dead well before Thanksgiving. They rallied in the season's second half to finish 8-8, but it was hardly a moral victory for a franchise accustomed to

success.

Nor are the Steelers accustomed to looking for new a new head coach, but Cowher's retirement sent ownership into search mode. In the end, Vikings defensive coordinator Mike Tomlin earned the job. Tomlin, 35, is likely to keep the team's 3-4 defensive scheme in place, but changes abound on offense, with Bruce Arians taking over for Ken Whisenhunt, now the Cardinals' head coach, as coordinator.

The transition to the Tomlin era will be the dominant storyline for the 2007



Steelers, who figure to have a chip on their collective shoulders after coming up empty last season.

## Offense

This is Bruce Arians' second try as an NFL offensive coordinator. Arians ran Cleveland's offense from 2001-03; suffice it to say he didn't have close to the sort of talent he had then that he has now. Look for Arians to employ some field-spreading four-WR packages, the very looks that he used to dominate Pittsburgh's secondary in a memorable playoff shootout in the '02 playoffs. Arians' Cleveland offenses would sometimes get too pass-happy, but the Steelers' strong running game — not to mention an organizational tradition of grind-it-out football — will remind him to keep things balanced.

**QUARTERBACKS** • This could be the year Ben Roethlisberger gets his name mentioned with the elite at his position. If that happens, it will be a year later than expected. Roethlisberger didn't make much progress as a passer in 2006. Roethlisberger missed summer practice time because of a motorcycle accident and missed Week One with appendicitis. Roethlisberger rushed back into action in Week Two, and he threw two interceptions in a shutout loss at Jacksonville. This kicked off a campaign in which Roethlisberger threw two or more interceptions in 8-of-15 games. Roethlisberger is guilty of thinking his arm is stronger than it actually is, which leads to some badly underthrown deep balls. He will also bird-dog his primary target. But he is very dangerous when he's in rhythm. He has a feel for the game that cannot be taught. He will stand in the pocket until the last instant, buy time by sliding in the pocket and deliver the ball on time to an open receiver. Once he cuts down on the turnovers, he'll be something special. Backup Charlie Batch can step in and run the team for a game or two. He's intelligent and instinctive and knows the offense. However, the more he plays, the more his limitations become apparent.

**RUNNING BACKS** • Willie Parker was one of the NFL's most dangerous runners last season, rushing for nearly 1,500 yards. Parker rushed for more than 200 yards vs. New Orleans and Cleveland. Those defenses could not stop him from getting to the corner, and they paid the price. Parker quickly hits top speed; if he hits a crease and gets a step on the secondary, he's gone. However, he loses his feet too easily, and he'll get brought down by his shoelaces more often than you'd like to see. Parker doesn't have a variety of moves in the open field, and he's not going to run many defenders over. Strong, physical run defenses such as the Ravens' give him trouble. Parker has been durable as the Steelers' starter; he has missed only one game the past two seasons. However, the Steelers must be careful not to wear him down, for if he loses his speed,

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
QB **BEN ROETHLISBERGER**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
SS **TROY POLAMALU**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
WR **SANTONIO HOLMES**

By the end of his rookie season, Holmes had emerged as one of Pittsburgh's most dangerous offensive weapons.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
C:  
**THREE-WAY BATTLE**

Kendall Simmons, Sean Mahan and Chukky Okobi are the primary competitors for the starting C job vacated by Jeff Hartings, who retired.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
C-OG Sean Mahan.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
DE Rodney Bailey, C Jeff Hartings, RB Vernon Haynes, OLB Joey Porter.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Lawrence Timmons	OLB	Florida State	15
2	LaMarr Woodley	DE	Michigan	46
3	Matt Spaeth	TE	Minnesota	77
4	Daniel Sepulveda	P	Baylor	112
4	Ryan McBean	DE	Oklahoma State	132
5	Cameron Stephenson	OG	Rutgers	156
5	William Gay	CB	Louisville	170
7	Dallas Baker	WR	Florida	227



he'll be just like any other back. The Steelers could give reserve RB Najeh Davenport more work this season to keep Parker fresh. Davenport runs with power and is relatively nimble for a man his size, but he is strictly a part-time player and comes with some durability concerns. FB Dan Kreider has made a living putting his hat on linebackers.

**RECEIVERS** • WR Hines Ward continues to play at a high level. He was not healthy all year and missed two games but still led the team in receiving. Ward should fit in well in Bruce Arians' offense; his quickness, strength and savvy make him a tough matchup even for cornerbacks with superior athleticism. And Ward blocks extremely well in the running game. Santonio Holmes is likely to start opposite of Ward. Holmes gave the Steelers' WR corps a needed jolt of speed when he entered the starting lineup. Drops can be a problem, but if he stays healthy, he seems a good bet to catch 60-70 passes. Cedrick Wilson, who lost his job to Holmes, is best-suited as a No. 3 or No. 4 receiver; he cannot shake free against top-

level defensive backs. Nate Washington, a former undrafted free agent, has sneaky speed but shaky hands: He dropped three touchdown passes last season. TE Heath Miller is one of the AFC's better receiving tight ends, but this is an offense more geared to the receivers. Miller's blocking is an asset. Rookie Matt Spaeth could see immediate playing time in two-TE sets.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The play of this group fell off last season. Even OLG Alan Faneca, one of the very best guards in the game, had something of a down year. Faneca is quick off the ball and quickly gets to the second level, but some scouts say his play is starting to decline. But Faneca can still be dominant in the run game, and defenses that have problems on the right side of their defensive line are in trouble. OLT Marvel Smith, who played so well in 2005, struggled somewhat in pass protection last season. Smith, who used to play right tackle, is a very good run blocker. OLT Max Starks also didn't play to expectations, and he could be pushed by Willie Colon. Starks needs to play low and with good technique to thrive on the right side. Colon is tough and aggressive but limited athletically. ORG Kendall Simmons isn't physical enough for the Steelers' liking, and he could get a chance to replace the retired Jeff Hartings at center. Former Buccaneer Sean Mahan is also in the mix at center, as is Chukky Okobi and Marvin Philip. Simmons is the best athlete of the bunch. Chris Kemoeatu provides depth at guard. He's best playing in a phonebooth, but he hasn't been as quick a study as the team would have hoped, and now he's playing for a new coaching staff. Trai Essex provides depth at tackle.

## Defense

Head coach Mike Tomlin was able to retain defensive coordinator Dick LeBeau, so expect the Steelers to keep employing a 3-4 front. The Steelers are getting old at linebacker and have a lot of questions in the secondary, but combining two of football's most innovative defensive minds could keep the unit very competitive.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • This is a very well-coached group. DL coach John Mitchell doesn't get a lot of publicity, but year after year, the Steelers' defensive line carries out its assignments. NT Casey Hampton can be dominant. He's quick off the ball and strong as a bull, and when he's at his best, the Steelers shut down the run and cause problems for opposing offenses. Aaron Smith is one of the league's most underrated 3-4 ends. Strong at the point of attack, Smith makes it a chore for teams to run left. The right defensive end, Brett Keisel, is more athletic than Smith and provides more pass-rushing punch. Keisel might eventually become an option at outside linebacker, but that's one of the more challenging positional changes to make.



Reserve NT Chris Hoke spells Hampton in the middle. He plays with good leverage. Travis Kirschke is a workmanlike reserve defensive end. Fourth-round DL Ryan McBean can play end and tackle.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ This unit used to be the strength of the team, but it didn't have a banner season in 2006. ROLB Joey Porter was released after his play fell off throughout the '06 season. First-round pick Lawrence Timmons and veteran James Harrison will compete to replace Porter. Timmons is athletic and explosive, and he could pay immediate dividends as an edge

rusher. Timmons has also shown he can hold his own in pass coverage. However, he was a full-time starter for only one season at Florida State, and he could take some time to reach his potential. Harrison is very physical but not especially athletic, and he missed most of last season with injuries.

**B** LOLB Clark Haggans has made himself into a starter-caliber outside linebacker. Haggans is explosive off the edge. His all-around game has improved, too, and he makes more plays in pursuit than he did earlier in his career. His durability is a slight concern; he has not played a full season since 2003. LILB James Farrior is slowing down somewhat, but he is still one of the better coverage linebackers around. RILB Larry Foote is limited athletically, but he's a serviceable starter in a 3-4 scheme. The Steelers' LB depth needs bolstering. ILB Clint Kriewaldt's primary value is on special

teams. Rian Wallace is another option inside. Arnold Harrison has bulked up and will provide depth outside. Second-round pick LaMarr Woodley also fits in the OLB rotation.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • SS Troy Polamalu is the headliner of this group. Polamalu can close quickly on ball carriers and receivers in a short area and is an ideal eighth man in the box. Deep pass coverage is not his strength. Polamalu was a little banged up last season, and he figures to bounce back this season. The starting free safety is like-

ly to be Anthony Smith, a big, athletic prospect who flashed a world of potential when he entered the lineup late in the season. He must become more assignment-sound and needs experience, but he has a bright future. Ryan Clark is an ideal third safety. He's smart, he can play both safety spots and he's a good fit in the locker room. Tyrone Carter is also in the mix at safety. The CB situation is a little unsettled, as none of the options at the position took a big step forward last season. After signing a contract extension before the season, Ike Taylor struggled mightily and was benched. Taylor lost his confidence and was picked on by opposing offenses. He doesn't play the deep ball well at all but is a sure tackler and plays the run well. Deshaea Townsend is getting up in age, but he can still hold his own against smaller, quicker receivers. Bryant McFadden has the most upside of the cornerbacks and

took Taylor's job for part of last season. McFadden is athletic and instinctive and has good ball skills.

## Special teams

PK Jeff Reed struggled at times last season, hitting only 20-of-27 field-goal attempts. However, the Steelers' PK job is one of the most challenging in the NFL because of the tricky winds and a field surface that gets progressively worse as the season goes on. P Chris Gardocki will likely be replaced by fourth-round pick Daniel Sepulveda, a former linebacker with a powerful left foot who could be a field-position weapon for years to come but needs to learn to not outkick his coverage. The Steelers may turn to Willie Reid to provide a spark on returns. Reid missed much of his rookie season because of injury. Antonio Holmes returned punts last season, but if the Steelers want to lighten his load, they are likely to turn to Reid. Reid, Holmes, and Najeh Davenport are options at kickoff returner.

## Summary

"Transition is never easy," Tomlin said early in the offseason. "I'm OK with that. Soon they will be. That's what this business is about. It's good to be a little uncomfortable." The Steelers are banking on a little change to shake up a team that seemed both distracted and stagnant last season. They have the talent to win the division and contend in the AFC. If their hunger and focus returns, the Steelers will be formidable.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	SEA	@JAX	CHI	@CHI	LAC	@ATL	@DAL	DET	IND	@CLEV	@BAL	TB	CLEV	@CAR	BAL	@CIN	
Score	28-17	0-9	20-28	13-23	45-7	38-41	13-20	20-31	38-31	24-20	0-27	20-3	27-7	37-3	7-31	23-17	
Total net yards	342	153	365	265	457	473	360	499	467	338	172	267	528	306	251	482	5725
Rushing yards	146	26	170	68	219	55	89	96	217	77	21	76	303	159	63	207	1992
Passing yards	196	127	195	197	238	418	271	403	250	261	151	191	225	147	188	275	3733
Rushing plays	38	14	38	18	42	26	28	19	26	20	11	31	52	43	18	45	469
Sacks allowed	3	2	3	5	1	3	5	4	2	2	9	1	0	3	5	1	49
Had intercepted	0	2	3	2	0	0	4	3	0	3	2	1	0	0	2	1	23
Fumbles lost	1	0	2	0	1	3	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	14
Yards penalized	10	25	25	30	41	65	70	50	34	50	28	15	25	10	32	101	611
Punts	5	8	2	3	3	3	4	2	3	4	7	5	2	3	7	4	65

	OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	24:33	37:25	26:09	33:52	25:29	32:19	24:30	25:27	33:01	32:13	34:46	31:01	21:13	22:47	35:22	20:20	28:47	
Total net yards	278	362	246	341	213	399	98	338	513	302	275	254	294	240	359	295	4805	
Rushing yards	38	110	87	119	38	173	81	115	120	99	114	110	18	43	103	44	1412	
Passing yards	240	252	159	222	175	226	17	221	393	203	161	144	276	197	256	251	3393	
Rushing plays	18	30	25	31	19	39	29	23	29	29	35	30	11	11	33	16	408	
Sacks allowed	3	1	6	4	1	1	6	1	1	5	0	5	0	5	0	0	39	
Had intercepted	2	1	2	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	2	0	20	
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	9	
Yards penalized	63	86	45	10	50	40	45	60	25	57	87	40	60	65	89	40	862	
Punts	6	6	5	3	7	5	7	7	2	3	6	6	7	4	6	6	86	

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Batch	7-20-0				2(-2)-0								2(-2)-0	2(-1)-0		13-15-0	
Davenport					2-0-0	12-78-1	1(-1)-0	4-1-0	2-17-0	2-3-0	2-11-0		6-8-0	14-62-0	11-14-0	1-1-0	60-221-1
Haynes	1-3-0	2-6-0	5-24-0	1-13-0	5-21-0	1-11-0											15-78-0
Parker	29-115-0	11-20-0	31-133-2	14-57-1	21-109-2	20-47-0	22-83-0	14-70-1	22-213-2	16-46-1	10-22-0	22-61-0	32-223-1	23-132-1	13-29-0	37-134-2	337-1494-13
Roethlisberger		1-0-0	1-6-11-0		1-0-0	3-6-29-0	1-6-0	3-9-0	2-1-0	2-20-0	1-7-13-0	3-3-0	5-52-1	4-22-0	7-32-0		no op

PASSING **																	
Batch	15-25-0 209-3				1-10 6-0	8-13-0 195-2					1-10 10-0			2-20 23-0	4-11-0 49-0		31-53-0 492-5
Roethlisberger	17-32-2 141-0	18-39-3 208-0	20-31-2 220-0	16-19-0 238-2	16-22-0 238-3	25-37-4 301-1	38-54-3 433-1	17-28-0 264-3	25-44-0 272-2	21-41-2 214-0	12-25-1 198-2	11-21-0 225-1	10-17-0 125-1	15-31-2 156-1	19-28-1 280-1	280-469-13 3513-18-23	

RECEIVING																	
Davenport				1-32-0					1-4-0	2-16-0	1-10-0	2-22-0	1-21-0	2-31-1			15-193-1
Haynes		5-26-0	5-33-0	3-7-0	2-12-0	1-2-0	2-15-0										18-95-
Holmes	1-6-0	1-15-0	3-30-0	2-22-0	2-58-0	5-91-0	2-43-0	6-58-0	2-57-0	5-75-1	3-31-0	1-18-0	4-81-0	3-25-0	5-90-0	4-124-1	49-82-2
Kreider	1-4-0						2-20-0				1-2-0		1-6-0			3-30-0	8-62-0
Miller	3-101-1	1-11-0	3-34-0	2-22-0	1-16-0	2-4-1	2-10-0	5-34-0	3-30-1	2-32-0	3-35-0	2-27-1		2-25-0	3-12-1		34-393-5
Morley						1-14-0							1-15-0				2-29-0
Parker	3-13-0	3-6-0	1-13-0	3-26-0	1-(+11)-0		2-28-1	7-67-1	2-12-0	4-17-1	2-15-0	1-25-0				2-11-0	31-222-3
Tuman		1-10-0				1-21-0	1-2-0	1-7-0				1-2-1	1-18-0			1-13-0	7-73-1
Ward	5-53-1	2-29-0	2-17-0	4-49-0	5-59-1	8-171-3	8-81-0	7-127-0	5-88-1	7-81-0	4-33-0			4-59-0	8-79-0	5-51-0	74-975-6
Washington	2-32-1	3-32-0	1-6-0	3-45-0	3-68-1	3-76-1	1-49-0	3-24-0	2-28-0	2-24-0	4-49-0	3-78-0	2-67-1	1-14-0	1-9-0	1-21-0	35-624-4
Wilson		1-12-0	3-73-0	2-17-0	3-42-0	3-54-0	5-53-0	4-59-0	2-47-1	3-27-0	4-49-0	2-26-0			2-15-0	1-30-0	32-504-1

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Mike Tomlin

## Pittsburgh Steelers

UPMC Sports Performance Complex  
3400 South Water Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15203  
412/432-7800  
Official Website: [www.steelers.com](http://www.steelers.com)  
Stadium: Heinz Field  
Capacity: 64,350  
Playing surface: DD GrassMaster (natural grass)  
2006 record: 8-8; Third in AFC North

**Chairman:** Daniel M. Rooney; **President:** Arthur J. Rooney II

**Director of football operations:** Kevin Colbert; **Pro personnel coordinator:** Doug Whaley; **College scouting coordinator:** Ron Hughes

**Head coach:** Mike Tomlin

**Assistant coaches:** Ken Anderson, *quarterbacks*; Bruce Arians, *offensive coordinator*; Keith Butler, *linebackers*; James Daniel, *tight ends*; Randy Fichtner, *wide receivers*; Garrett Glemont, *conditioning coordinator*; Harold Goodwin, *quality control, offense*; Ray Horton, *defensive backs*; Amos Jones, *asst. special teams*; Dick LeBeau, *defensive coordinator*; Bob Ligascheky, *special teams*; John Mitchell, *defensive line*; Lou Spanos, *quality control, defense*; Kirby Wilson, *running backs*; Larry Zierlein, *offensive line*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
SE	86 WARD	80 Wilson	Baker*	
OLT	77 M. SMITH	79 Essex		
OLG	66 FANEGA	68 Kemoeatu	Stephenson*	
C	61 MAHAN	73 Simmons	56 Okobi	62 Philip
ORG	73 SIMMONS	61 Mahan	68 Kemoeatu	
ORT	78 STARKS	74 Colon	79 Essex	
TE	83 MILLER	Spaeth*	84 Tuman	
FL	10 HOLMES	85 Washington	15 Reid	
QB	7 ROETHLISBERGER	16 Batch	2 St. Pierre	
HB	39 PARKER	44 Davenport	42 Kuhn	
FB	35 KREIDER	38 Davis		
DEFENSE				
DLE	91 Aa. SMITH	McBean*	90 Kirschke	
NT	98 HAMPTON	76 Hoke		
DRE	99 KEISEL	McBean*	96 Nua	
LOLB	53 HAGGANS	Woodley*	97 A. Harrison	47 Stanley
LILB	51 FARRIOR	54 Wallace		
RILB	50 FOOTE	57 Kriewaldt		
ROLB	92 J. HARRISON	Timmons*		
LCB	24 TAYLOR	20 McFadden	21 Colclough	
RCB	26 TOWNSEND	20 McFadden	21 Colclough	Gay*
SS	43 POLAMALU	23 Carter		
FS	27 An. SMITH	25 Clark	23 Carter	
SPECIALISTS				
P	SEPULVEDA*	6 Barr	17 Gardocki	
PK	3 REED			
H	SEPULVEDA*	17 Gardocki		
PR	15 REID	21 Colclough		
KR	15 REID	10 Holmes	44 Davenport	
LS	60 WARREN			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Cleveland	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	Buffalo	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	San Francisco	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Arizona	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	Seattle	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	BYE	
Oct. 21	at Denver	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 28	at Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Nov. 5	Baltimore	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 11	Cleveland	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Nov. 26	Miami	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 2	Cincinnati	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 9	at New England	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Dec. 20	at St. Louis	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Baltimore	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Pittsburgh

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 7	Miami	(-1.5)	28-17
Sept. 18	at Jacksonville	(-2.5)	0-9
Sept. 24	Cincinnati	(-2)	20-28
Oct. 1	BYE		
Oct. 8	at San Diego	(+3)	13-23
Oct. 15	Kansas City	(-6.5)	45-7
Oct. 22	at Atlanta	(-3)	38-41*
Oct. 29	at Oakland	(-9)	13-20
Nov. 5	Denver	(-3)	20-31
Nov. 12	New Orleans	(-6.5)	38-31
Nov. 19	at Cleveland	(-4)	24-20
Nov. 26	at Baltimore	(+3)	0-27
Dec. 3	Tampa Bay	(-8.5)	20-3
Dec. 7	Cleveland	(-7)	27-7
Dec. 17	at Carolina	(-3)	37-3
Dec. 24	Baltimore	(-4)	7-31
Dec. 31	at Cincinnati	(+6)	23-17*

\* OVERTIME

## STEELERS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	OP/RS
	Baker, Dallas	WR	6-3	206	R	Florida	
6	Barr, Mike	P	6-2	230	1	Rutgers	0/0
16	Batch, Charlie	QB	6-2	216	10	Eastern Michigan	12/0
	Boyd, Cody	TE	6-8	264	R	Washington State	
	Capizzi, Jason	OT	6-9	315	R	Indiana (Pa.)	
23	Carter, Tyrone	S	5-8	195	8	Minnesota	16/3
49	Church, Marcello	LB	6-1	230	1	Florida State	0/0
25	Clark, Ryan	S	5-11	205	6	LSU	13/12
21	Colclough, Ricardo	CB	5-11	195	4	Tusculum	3/0
74	Colon, Willie	OT	6-3	315	2	Hofstra	2/2
44	Davenport, Najeh	RB	6-1	247	6	Miami (Fla.)	13/0
38	Davis, Carey	FB	5-10	225	1	Illinois	0/0
88	Dekker, Jon	TE	6-5	250	1	Princeton	0/0
	Deslauriers, Eric	WR	6-4	207	R	Eastern Michigan	
69	Eason, Nick	DE	6-3	305	5	Clemson	13/3
79	Essex, Trai	OT	6-4	324	3	Northwestern	15/0
87	Euhus, Tim	TE	6-5	249	4	Oregon State	1/0
66	Fanega, Alan	OG	6-5	307	10	LSU	16/16
51	Farrior, James	LB	6-2	243	11	Virginia	16/16
50	Foote, Larry	LB	6-1	239	6	Michigan	16/16
	Fowler, Eric	WR	6-3	198	R	Grand Valley State	
17	Gardocki, Chris	P	6-1	192	17	Clemson	16/0
	Gay, William	CB	5-10	190	R	Louisville	
53	Haggans, Clark	LB	6-4	243	8	Colorado State	15/15
98	Hampton, Casey	DT	6-1	325	7	Texas	15/15
97	Harrison, Arnold	LB	6-3	241	2	Georgia	7/2
92	Harrison, James	LB	6-0	242	4	Kent State	11/1
76	Hoke, Chris	DT	6-2	305	7	Brigham Young	16/1
10	Holmes, Santonio	WR	5-11	189	2	Ohio State	16/4
	Hughes, Connor	PK	5-10	172	1	Virginia	0/0
29	Iwuoma, Chidi	CB	5-9	184	7	California	5/0
	Jackson, Chris	WR	6-2	205	R	Millsaps	
28	Johnson, Jovon	CB	5-9	177	2	Iowa	2/0
	Jones, Derrick	DL	6-4	282	R	Grand Valley State	
99	Keisel, Brett	DE	6-5	285	6	Brigham Young	16/16
68	Kemoeatu, Chris	OG	6-3	344	3	Utah	3/2
90	Kirschke, Travis	DE	6-3	298	11	UCLA	16/0
	Koonce, Richard	LB	6-0	235	1	East Carolina	0/0
35	Kreider, Dan	FB	5-11	255	8	New Hampshire	16/12
57	Kriewaldt, Clint	LB	6-1	248	9	Wis.-Stevens Point	14/0
42	Kuhn, John	RB	6-0	255	2	Shippensburg	9/0
45	Lorello, Mike	S	5-11	208	1	West Virginia	0/0
37	Madison, Anthony	CB	5-9	180	2	Alabama	13/0
61	Mahan, Sean	OG	6-3	301	5	Notre Dame	16/12
11	Marshall, Rasheed	WR	6-1	188	2	West Virginia	0/0
	Mason, Grant	CB	6-0	192	1	Michigan	0/0
	McBean, Ryan	DE	6-5	290	R	Oklahoma State	
20	McFadden, Bryant	CB	6-0	190	3	Florida State	16/9
83	Miller, Heath	TE	6-5	256	3	Virginia	16/16
	Mosley, Paul	RB	6-3	235	R	Baylor	
96	Nua, Shaun	DE	6-5	280	2	Brigham Young	0/0
56	Okobi, Chucky	C	6-1	305	7	Purdue	15/2
39	Parker, Willie	RB	5-10	209	4	North Carolina	16/16
74	Paxson, Scott	DT	6-4	292	1	Penn State	0/0
62	Philip, Marvin	C	6-1	307	2	California	0/0
43	Polamalu, Troy	S	5-10	207	5	USC	13/13
5	Randall, Bryan	QB	6-0	228	2	Virginia Tech	0/0
3	Reed, Jeff	PK	5-11	225	6	North Carolina	16/0
	Rehage, Derek	LB	6-0	242	1	Miami (Ohio)	0/0
15	Reid, Willie	WR	5-10	186	2	Florida State	16/0
	Retkofsky, Jared	LS	6-5	260	R	Texas Christian	
	Robbins, Aaron	FB	6-4	256	R	Wyoming	
7	Roethlisberger, Ben	QB	6-5	241	4	Miami (Ohio)	15/15
	Russell, Gary	RB	5-11	215	R	Minnesota	
95	Seigler, Richard	LB	6-2	238	3	Oregon State	2/0
	Sepulveda, Daniel	P	6-3	230	R	Baylor	
73	Simmons, Kendall	OG	6-3	315	6	Auburn	14/14
91	Smith, Aaron	DE	6-5	298	9	Northern Colorado	16/16
27	Smith, Anthony	S	5-11	192	2	Syracuse	16/4
30	Smith, Harrison	CB	6-2	200	1	California	0/0
77	Smith, Marvel	OT	6-5	321	8	Arizona State	16/16
	Spaeth, Matt	TE	6-7	270	R	Minnesota	
2	St. Pierre, Brian	QB	6-3	230	5	Boston College	0/0
47	Stanley, Ron	LB	6-0	244	1	Michigan State	1/0
	Stapleton, Darnell	OG-C	6-3	285	R	Rutgers	
78	Starks, Max	OT	6-8	337	4	Florida	14/14
	Stephenson, Cameron	OG	6-4	305	R	Rutgers	
24	Taylor, Ike	CB	6-1	191	5	Louisiana-Lafayette	16/11
	Timmons, Lawrence	LB	6-1	234	R	Florida State	
71	Torrey, Brandon	OT	6-4	295	1	Howard	0/0
26	Townsend, Deshea	CB	5-10	190	10	Alabama	16/12
84	Tuman, Jerome	TE	6-4	253	9	Michigan	15/4
19	Walker, Gerran	WR	5-10	185	1	Lehigh	0/0
54	Wallace, Rian	LB	6-3	243	3	Temple	12/0
86	Ward, Hines	WR	6-0	205	10	Georgia	14/14
60	Warren, Greg	LS	6-3	252	3	North Carolina	16/0
85	Washington, Nate	WR	6-1	185	3	Tiffin	16/2
80	Wilson, Cedrick	WR	5-10	183	7	Tennessee	15/12
	Woodley, LaMarr	LB	6-2	265	R	Michigan	
18	Young, Walter	WR	6-4	220	3	Illinois	2/0



# CLEVELAND BROWNS

DAVID DUROCHIK / SPORTPICS



LB KAMERION WIMBLEY

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **5-11** 4th place /  
AFC North

**D**on't look now, but the Browns are entering their ninth season in their present incarnation. Progress has been slow, success has been fleeting, and the Browns have been stuck in the basement of the AFC North for much of that span.

Expectations were high for the '06 season after an off-season spending spree, but Cleveland found itself behind the eight-ball from the first training-camp practice, when C LeCharles Bentley, expected to be the leader of a new-look offensive line, suf-

fered a serious knee injury.

Things got no better for the Browns, who finished nine games behind Baltimore in the AFC North. They were winless in divisional play — the latest in a string of Browns teams that didn't match up well against the Steelers, Bengals and Ravens. Head coach Romeo Crennel's handling of his team was questioned throughout the season. Crennel kept his job, but another four-win season could force owner Randy Lerner to make another coaching change.

General manager Phil Savage is also under scrutiny. The Browns haven't gotten markedly better on his watch, and he has already fought off one in-house

power grab for his job.

The Browns badly need some stability. Savage and Crennel have 2007 to prove they can lay the foundation for future success. However, Savage's impressive Draft Day haul of cornerstone QB Brady Quinn and OLT Joe Thomas could be a turning point for the franchise.

## Offense

Last season, the Browns' offense was hampered by a lack of direction, shaky QB play and a leaky offensive line. The Browns didn't have a clear offensive identity, and it showed. Offensive coordinator Maurice Carthon resigned after the offense struggled





early and his play-calling became a hot-button issue. Carthon was replaced by Jeff Davidson, who was expected to keep the job into 2007 and beyond. But when Davidson could coax no better results out of the offense, he was not retained. The Browns brought in Chargers TE coach Rob Chudzinski, formerly a Browns assistant, to replace Davidson. Chudzinski is incredibly smart and is regarded as one of the game's up-and-coming football minds.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ In Brady Quinn, the Browns may have finally found the leader and quarterback the franchise has lacked since Bernie Kosar's heyday. Quinn was the most pro-ready quarterback in the draft and could push Charlie Frye out of a job in short order. Quinn is intelligent and mechanically sound, and he is of strong character. The knocks on Quinn are that he has come up short in big games and has stretches where his accuracy is scattershot, but his mix of talent and intangibles gives him a chance to be a major success. Frye simply made too many mistakes for the coaching staff's taste last season and will need to improve to have a shot at keeping his job. Frye is an accurate passer, and you cannot question his toughness; he took 44 sacks in 13 games. He is not blessed with an especially strong arm, so he's going to have to make the right reads to thrive. When Frye missed three games with a wrist injury in '06, Derek Anderson filled in and looked like a viable prospect at times. However, he is prone to forcing the ball into coverage, and he too often tucks and runs.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ For years, the Browns have looked for a long-term answer at this position without success. In the short term, former Ravens RB Jamal Lewis will hold down the starting job. Lewis is an upgrade over predecessor Reuben Droughns, but he is not the player he was three or four years ago. Lewis used to be able to run over linebackers and away from defensive backs, but he's more bruiser than gamebreaker these days. However, he's still a useful player, and he enters this season with something to prove after the Ravens didn't make much of an effort to bring him back. He could be a pleasant surprise. Ideally, the Browns will find a back who can spell Lewis, but the in-house candidates are not appealing. Jason Wright isn't quick or strong enough to be anything more than a No. 3 back, and Jerome Harrison is too small for extended work. FB Lawrence Vickers flashed some ability as a rookie, and he will take a bigger role with the departure of Terrelle Smith. Alan Ricard could also figure in the mix at fullback.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Braylon Edwards is only 24, so there is hope he can reach his considerable potential. And, from strictly a numbers standpoint, he would appear to be on his way. Edwards caught 61 passes for 884 yards and six touchdowns in 2006, his second NFL season. Edwards is less than two years removed from a serious knee injury, a fact that makes his '06 production

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
TE **KELLEN WINSLOW**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
LB **KAMERON WINDLEY**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
WR **BRAYLON EDWARDS**

His '06 season was marred by his immaturity, but he caught 61 passes all the same, and further improvement is expected.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
NT:  
**SHAUN SMITH vs. TED WASHINGTON**

Washington is expected to begin the season as the starter, but the Browns signed Smith to be their nose tackle for the next several seasons.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

WR Tim Carter, RB Jamal Lewis, DE Robaire Smith, DT Shaun Smith, OG-OT Eric Steinbach, CB Kenny Wright.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

CB Ralph Brown, RB Reuben Droughns, CB Daylon McCutcheon, DE Alvin McKinley, WR Dennis Northcutt, S Brian Russell, FB Terrelle Smith.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Joe Thomas	OT	Wisconsin	3
1	Brady Quinn	QB	Notre Dame	22
2	Eric Wright	CB	UNLV	53
5	Brandon McDonald	CB	Memphis	140
6	Meilla Purcell	DE	Hawaii	200
7	Chase Pittman	DE	LSU	213
7	Syndric Steptoe	WR	Arizona	234



all the more impressive. However, Edwards' immaturity was as much a story as anything he did on the field last season. In November, Edwards made headlines for being late to a meeting because he took a helicopter ride to the Michigan-Ohio State game, and he was benched for the start of the Christmas Eve game vs. Tampa Bay after missing a meeting. Then there was the sideline confrontation with QB Charlie Frye in a November loss to Cincinnati. TE Kellen Winslow is also on the temperamental side. Winslow's competitive fire is already legendary, but he's not above pointing fingers and demanding the ball. Winslow had microfracture knee surgery in the offseason, but he's expected to be ready for training camp. Winslow comes off a remarkable 2006 season. Bothered by knee pain all season, Winslow caught 89 passes for 875 yards. Veteran WR Joe Jurevicius quietly had a fine first season in

Cleveland, catching 40 passes. Look for him to have a bigger role in the offense this season. WR Travis Wilson, a 2006 third-round pick, will compete with Tim Carter and Joshua Cribbs for the No. 3 WR job. Steve Heiden and Darnell Dinkins provide depth at tight end.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ In March, the Browns signed OLG Eric Steinbach away from Cincinnati, weakening a division rival's offensive line and strengthening their own line with a blue-chip interior lineman. Steinbach is very athletic, and his versatility is invaluable. He can play any position on the offensive line, and he has the ability to play them well. Third overall pick Joe Thomas is expected to start at left tackle from the outset. Thomas is athletic and often neutralized the opponent's best pass rusher in college, but he needs to be more nasty and learn how to anchor better to thrive against professional competition. Thomas' arrival means that predecessor Kevin Shaffer's future is likely at right guard or right tackle. Shaffer is a workmanlike left tackle who struggles with speed rushers, and the right side is probably his best side. Ryan Tucker, whose 2006 ended prematurely as he battled some undisclosed personal issues, is also in the mix at right tackle, as is Kelly Butler. C Hank Fraley started all 16 games after the Browns, desperate to find a veteran after losing LeCharles Bentley to a knee injury, traded a draft pick to Philadelphia. Fraley gives good effort and is as tough as they come, but he has trouble with size and speed. Bentley is likely to miss the 2007 season because of the effects of the injury and a subsequent staph infection. His career is in doubt. Lennie Friedman will back up Fraley and could also be in the picture at right guard. Former Dolphin Seth McKinney provides depth at center and guard.

## Defense

The Browns finished 27th in total defense in 2006, surrendering 344.8 yards per game. Defensive coordinator Todd Grantham is well-regarded in league circles, and he has more talent to work with than he did when he took the job two seasons ago. The Browns employ a 3-4 front, but that scheme hasn't worked to date because of a lack of quality defensive linemen and an inability to rush the passer.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Todd Grantham is familiar with Robaire Smith from their time together with the Texans, and the Browns are banking on this connection to solidify one of their DE spots. Although Smith was a disappointment in two seasons in Houston as a 3-4 end, he is an upgrade over Alvin McKinley, who signed with Denver. Smith is strong and athletic and has stretches where he plays very well — for instance, his Texans' career got off to a flying start in 2004 — but he hasn't sustained that level of achievement through-



out his career. The Browns' other defensive end, Orpheus Royle, enters his 12th season. At 34, he is entering the homestretch of his career, but he was their best offensive lineman a year ago and is very strong vs. the run. Former Bengals reserve DT Shaun Smith appears likely to have a major role at nose tackle. He will be expected to be a more active complement to big Ted Washington, who can still make an impact as a run stuffer if used sparingly. Simon Fraser, Orien Harris, Nick Eason and rookies Melia Purcell and Chase Pittman will compete to be reserves at defensive end. Fraser really struggled when pressed into action last season; he is just not strong enough at the point of attack.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ The Browns have a young pass-rushing star in ROLB Kamerion Wimbley, who notched a team-high 11 sacks as a rookie. Wimbley's exceptional burst and quickness make him a handle for offensive tackles to handle. However, he needs to be more of a factor vs. the run and improve in coverage. Once his all-around game develops, Wimbley should be something to behold. LOLB Willie McGinest disappointed in his first season in Cleveland and didn't give the team the boost it expected. At 35, it's reasonable to wonder how much McGinest has left. Antwan Peek, signed away from Houston, will push for playing time immediately if he can provide the pass-rushing presence he didn't always provide for the Texans. The move back to the 3-4 could be just what he needs. Matt Stewart and Chaun Thompson

are other options at outside linebacker. The starters inside are Andra Davis and D'Qwell Jackson. Davis is bulkier, while Jackson is the superior athlete. Reserve ILB Leon Williams surprised as a rookie and was quite productive filling in for the injured Davis late in the season.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ The Browns lack a lockdown cornerback, and they really struggled last season when their two best players at the position, Gary Baxter and Leigh Bodden, were hurt. Baxter may never play again after tearing the patellar tendon in both knees in the Oct. 22 loss to Denver. He will likely miss the 2007 season. Bodden, who the team considers its best cornerback, battled an ankle injury for much of last season. He has the size and athleticism to be an above-average starter at the position. CB Daven Holly was pressed into action last season and improved as the season went on, and he'll likely start opposite of Bodden. Kenny Wright and Jereme Perry are other veteran options. Rookie Eric Wright has the athleticism and closing speed to develop into a starter, but character concerns hurt his draft stock. He is very much a boom-or-bust prospect. The rising star in the secondary is SS Sean Jones, a big, athletic playmaker who helped the Browns keep it together in the back end all last season. Some scouts aren't convinced he can be a special player, but there is no doubting he's turned around his career after a slow start. The Browns will hand the free safety job to

Brodney Pool and hope that, like Jones, he figures things out in his third NFL season. Justin Hamilton is the top option off the bench at safety.

## Special teams

The Browns lost one of the league's top special-teams coordinators when Jerry Rosburg joined the Falcons. The Browns had strong coverage units on Rosburg's watch and were capable of setting up dynamic returns for returners Dennis Northcutt and Joshua Cribbs. Northcutt is also gone, likely to be replaced by Tim Carter.

Cribbs, who returns kicks, is naturally athletic, and he's very diligent about his craft. PK Phil Dawson comes off one of his worst seasons as a pro, but P Dave Zastudil fared quite well in his first season in Cleveland, ending the team's recent punting woes.

## Summary

The good news is that the Browns have quietly assembled some intriguing young talent on both sides of the ball. The bad news is the overhaul isn't over and they are at least a year away from seriously competing in the formidable AFC North. The future of Romeo Crennel and Phil Savage will likely come down to owner Randy Lerner's definition of progress. Another set of lackluster results from the free-agent and rookie classes could doom Savage, while Crennel must prove he's in control of his team.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

		TEAM STATISTICS																TOTALS	
OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17		
	AT	CM	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT	AT		
Score	14-19	17-34	14-15	24-21	12-20	7-17	20-13	25-32	17-13	20-24	0-30	31-28	7-27	17-27	7-22	6-14			
Total net yards	186	301	288	283	248	165	267	293	236	302	203	438	294	236	187	306		4233	
Rushing yards	85	57	38	104	91	34	147	84	91	99	51	150	18	68	91	127		1335	
Passing yards	101	244	250	179	157	131	120	209	145	203	152	288	276	168	96	179		2898	
Rushing plays	22	20	19	35	23	13	39	27	27	29	14	29	11	16	20	28		372	
Sacks allowed	5	0	7	2	2	5	3	5	5	5	4	1	0	6	3	1		54	
Had intercepted	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	4	1	1	2	4	1		25	
Fumbles lost	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	1	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	2		17	
Yards penalized	35	27	17	37	70	10	42	50	52	57	93	15	60	50	15	57		687	
Punts	6	6	8	2	7	6	5	4	10	3	4	3	6	7	3	3		83	
		OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	32:46	34:05	31:51	22:54	28:45	37:15	24:49	27:06	28:22	27:47	37:50	29:01	38:47	30:12	37:16	21:54		30:40	
Total net yards	326	481	340	240	288	347	193	381	343	338	388	417	528	373	355	179		5517	
Rushing yards	156	160	86	194	119	150	88	190	149	77	88	124	303	142	153	96		2275	
Passing yards	170	321	254	46	169	197	105	191	194	261	300	293	225	231	202	83		3242	
Rushing plays	41	32	27	24	28	37	27	23	29	20	37	32	52	35	44	26		514	
Sacks allowed	0	4	2	4	1	2	1	3	1	2	1	2	0	1	3	1		28	
Had intercepted	1	2	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	3	1	1	0	1	1	1		18	
Fumbles lost	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	0		9	
Yards penalized	44	49	30	47	34	30	5	113	76	50	75	29	25	30	10	31		678	
Punts	3	4	6	6	9	6	3	6	8	4	4	3	2	5	2	6		77	
		INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
		RUSHING																	
Anderson													2-44-0	1-4-0		1-(-1)-0		4-47-0	
Droughns	11-27-0	14-32-1		25-100-0	18-65-0	12-33-0	33-125-1	19-36-0	21-54-1			2-4-0	14-70-1	5-6-0	8-31-0	19-83-0		220-758-4	
Frye	6-44-1	4-10-1	2-6-1	5-(-2)-0	2-12-0	1-1-0	5-19-0	5-27-0	4-28-0	5-27-0	2-5-0	1-2-0				5-36-0		47-215-3	
Harrison	2-14-0		2-1-0	3-(-3)-0	3-14-0			2-13-0		4-5-0	3-18-0					1-(-2)-0		20-60-0	
Wright		1-(-1)-0	15-31-0	2-9-0						18-74-0	5-12-0	11-25-0	2-2-0	8-37-0				62-189-0	
		PASSING **																	
Anderson													12-21-1	21-37-1	23-32-2	10-27-4		66-117-8	
Frye	16-27-2	20-33-2	21-33-1	22-32-2	26-43-2	19-33-1	15-22-1	26-44-1	16-22-0	17-27-0	18-29-4	11-13-0		276-1	223-2	123-0		252-393-17	
	132-1	244-0	298-1	192-3	173-0	149-1	141-1	241-1	165-1	224-0	186-0	122-1					187-0	2454-10	
		RECEIVING																	
Cribbs		1-11-0	1-6-0		2-18-0	4-32-0	1-14-0											10-91-0	
Droughns				1-3-1									1-11-0					2-14-1	
Edwards	2-23-0	4-110-0	5-116-1	6-75-0	3-27-0	2-6-0	2-21-0	7-66-1	3-31-1	7-137-0	2-29-0	3-36-1	4-86-1	5-68-1	2-7-0	4-46-0		27-169-0	
Harrison		2-17-0	1-2-0	1-12-0	4-10-0								1-6-0					9-47-0	
Heiden	1-7-0	2-13-0	2-18-0	1-6-0	2-21-0	2-10-0	3-23-0	2-14-0	4-24-0	2-14-0	2-14-0	5-27-2	2-21-0	3-20-0		3-17-0		38-249-2	
Jurevicius				3-22-1	3-28-0	4-40-1		3-76-0	2-4-0	1-16-0	2-19-0	6-75-0	7-111-0	5-46-1	4-58-0			40-495-3	
Northcutt	4-37-0	3-18-0	3-32-0	2-10-0	1-11-0			1-7-0	1-6-0	1-3-0	3-61-0		1-12-0		2-31-0			22-228-0	
T. Smith	1-2-0	1-3-0		3-9-0				1-0-0										8-21-0	
Winslow	8-63-1	4-42-0	7-92-0	3-31-1	8-55-0	3-34-0	7-76-1	11-78-0	5-90-0	4-36-0	6-52-0	1-26-0	4-19-0	5-61-0	2-27-0	11-93-0		89-875-3	
Wright			1-3-0							1-6-0	1-0-0	2-70-0		1-3-0				6-82-0	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.



**Cleveland Browns**

76 Lou Groza Boulevard  
Berea, OH 44017  
440/891-5000  
Official Website: [www.clevelandbrowns.com](http://www.clevelandbrowns.com)  
Stadium: Cleveland Browns Stadium  
Capacity: 73,200  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 4-12; Fourth in AFC North

Romeo Crennel

**Owner and president:** Randolph D. Lerner

**Senior vice president/general manager:** Phil Savage; **Director of player personnel:** Bill Rees;  
**Assistant director of pro personnel:** T.J. McCreight

**Head coach:** Romeo Crennel

**Assistant coaches:** Dave Atkins, *senior offensive assistant*; Wes Chandler, *wide receivers*; Rob Chudzinski, *offensive coordinator*; Ted Daisher, *special-teams coordinator*; Alan DeGennaro, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Todd Grantham, *defensive coordinator*; Mike Haluchak, *linebackers*; Umberto Leone, *defensive quality control*; Anthony Lynn, *running backs*; Steve Marshall, *offensive line*; Randy Melvin, *defensive line*; Tom Myslinski, *strength and conditioning*; Alfredo Roberts, *light ends*; Rip Scherer, *asst. head coach/quarterbacks*; Mike Sullivan, *asst. offensive line*; Bob Trott, *defensive assistant*; Mel Tucker, *defensive backs*; Jeff Uhlenhake, *asst. offensive line*; Cory Undlin, *secondary/assistant special teams*; Frank Verducci, *offensive assistant*.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART****OFFENSE**

WR <b>84 JUREVICIUS</b>	16 Cribbs	86 Carter	Stephens*
OLT <b>THOMAS*</b>	77 Shaffer	65 Steinbach	
OLG <b>85 STEINBACH</b>	62 Friedman	61 Sowell	
C <b>66 FRALEY</b>	62 Friedman	68 McKinney	
ORG <b>77 SHAFFER</b>	62 Friedman	68 McKinney	67 Matua
ORT <b>72 TUCKER</b>	77 Shaffer	71 Butler	70 N. Dorsey
TE <b>80 WINSLOW</b>	82 Heiden	87 Dinkins	
WR <b>17 EDWARDS</b>	81 Wilson	86 Carter	
QB <b>10 QUINN*</b>	9 Frye	3 Anderson	11 K. Dorsey
RB <b>31 LEWIS</b>	29 J. Wright	35 Harrison	
FB <b>47 VICKERS</b>	Ricard		

**DEFENSE**

DLE <b>99 ROYE</b>	75 Fraser	93 Harris	Purcell*
NT <b>92 WASHINGTON</b>	91 S. Smith	96 Oshinowo	
DRE <b>98 R. SMITH</b>	98 Eason	Pittman*	
LOLB <b>55 MCGINEST</b>	56 Peek	51 Thompson	
LILB <b>54 A. DAVIS</b>	94 Williams		
RILB <b>58 JACKSON</b>	94 Williams	53 Unck	
ROLB <b>95 WIMBLEY</b>	56 Peek	52 Stewart	53 Unck
LCB <b>28 BODDEN</b>	25 K. Wright	33 Perry	30 Perkins
RCB <b>39 HOLLY</b>	25 K. Wright	24 E. Wright*	McDonald*
SS <b>26 JONES</b>	27 Hamilton		
FS <b>21 POOL</b>	27 Hamilton		

**SPECIALISTS**

P <b>15 ZASTUDIL</b>			
PK <b>4 DAWSON</b>			
H <b>15 ZASTUDIL</b>			
PR <b>16 CRIBBS</b>	86 Carter	30 Perkins	
KR <b>16 CRIBBS</b>	86 Carter	30 Perkins	
LS <b>84 PONTBRIAND</b>			

\* Rookie

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Oakland	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 30	Baltimore	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	at New England	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	Miami	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	BYE	
Oct. 28	at St. Louis	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	Seattle	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Baltimore	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	Houston	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Arizona	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 9	at N.Y. Jets	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 16	Buffalo	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	San Francisco	1 p.m.

**2006 RESULTS**

Points spread refers to Cleveland

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	New Orleans	(-3)	14-19
Sept. 17	at Cincinnati	(+10)	17-34
Sept. 24	Baltimore	(+7)	14-15
Oct. 1	at Oakland	(-1)	24-21
Oct. 8	at Carolina	(+7.5)	12-20
Oct. 15	BYE		
Oct. 22	Denver	(+4.5)	7-17
Oct. 29	New York Jets	(-1.5)	20-13
Nov. 5	at San Diego	(+13.5)	25-32
Nov. 12	at Atlanta	(+8)	17-13
Nov. 19	Pittsburgh	(+4)	20-24
Nov. 26	Cincinnati	(+3)	0-30
Dec. 3	Kansas City	(+4)	31-28*
Dec. 7	at Pittsburgh	(+7)	7-27
Dec. 17	at Baltimore	(+12.5)	17-27
Dec. 24	Tampa Bay	(-3)	7-22
Dec. 31	at Houston	(+6)	6-14

\* OVERTIME

**BROWNS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
	Adams, Mike	S	5-11	195	4	Delaware	16/8
3	Anderson, Derek	QB	6-6	229	3	Oregon State	5/3
63	Andruzzi, Joe	OG	6-3	315	11	Southern Connecticut St.	14/14
24	Barclay, Chris	RB	5-10	180	1	Wake Forest	0/0
13	Basler, Kyle	P	6-3	238	1	Washington State	0/0
23	Baxter, Gary	CB	6-2	210	7	Baylor	3/3
57	Bentley, LeCharles	C	6-2	309	6	Ohio State	0/0
28	Bodden, Leigh	CB	6-1	192	5	Duquesne	9/9
71	Butler, Kelly	OT	6-7	330	4	Purdue	6/5
86	Carter, Tim	WR	6-0	200	6	Auburn	16/8
16	Cribbs, Joshua	WR	6-1	192	3	Kent State	16/1
54	Davis, Andra	LB	6-1	254	6	Florida	14/14
4	Dawson, Phil	PK	5-11	201	9	Texas	16/0
87	Dinkins, Darnell	TE	6-4	259	6	Pittsburgh	14/2
11	Dorsey, Ken	QB	6-4	211	5	Miami (Fla.)	1/0
70	Dorsey, Nat	OT	6-7	345	4	Georgia Tech	13/2
17	Edwards, Braylon	WR	6-3	212	3	Michigan	16/15
36	Emanuel, Ben	S	6-2	220	2	UCLA	0/0
38	Fontenot, Therrian	CB	5-11	187	1	Fresno State	1/0
66	Fraley, Hank	C	6-2	300	8	Robert Morris	16/16
75	Fraser, Simon	DE	6-6	295	3	Ohio State	16/5
62	Friedman, Lennie	OG	6-3	295	9	Duke	16/2
9	Frye, Charlie	QB	6-4	218	3	Akron	13/13
27	Hamilton, Justin	S	6-3	217	2	Virginia Tech	10/0
93	Harris, Orien	DE	6-3	302	1	Miami (Fla.)	2/0
35	Harrison, Jerome	RB	5-9	199	2	Washington State	10/1
82	Heiden, Steve	TE	6-5	267	9	South Dakota State	16/6
74	Hoffman, Andrew	OT	6-4	300	1	Virginia	0/0
39	Holly, Daven	CB	5-10	192	3	Cincinnati	14/12
58	Jackson, D'Qwell	LB	6-0	228	2	Maryland	13/13
26	Jones, Sean	S	6-1	215	4	Georgia	16/16
84	Jurevicius, Joe	WR	6-5	232	10	Penn State	13/8
78	Kelley, Ethan	DE	6-2	320	3	Baylor	11/1
	Krause, Ryan	TE	6-3	256	4	Nebraska-Omaha	0/0
41	Lesueur, Jeremy	CB	6-0	204	4	Michigan	0/0
31	Lewis, Jamal	RB	5-11	245	8	Tennessee	16/16
79	Lougheed, Pete	OT	6-5	300	1	Purdue	0/0
67	Matua, Fred	OG	6-2	305	2	USC	0/0
	McDonald, Brandon	CB	5-11	181	R	Memphis	
55	McGinest, Willie	LB	6-5	268	14	USC	14/14
68	McKinney, Seth	C	6-3	310	6	Texas A&M	0/0
90	McMillan, David	LB	6-3	250	3	Kansas	10/0
22	Minter, DeMario	CB	5-11	190	2	Georgia	0/0
18	Mosley, Kendrick	WR	6-2	207	1	Western Michigan	1/0
85	Ortega, Buck	TE	6-4	227	1	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
96	Oshinowo, Babatunde	DT	6-1	305	1	Stanford	1/0
69	Parker, J'vonne	DT	6-4	323	2	Rutgers	6/0
56	Peek, Antwan	LB	6-3	258	5	Cincinnati	11/2
30	Perkins, Antonio	CB	5-11	194	3	Oklahoma	5/0
33	Perry, Jerome	CB	6-0	190	2	Eastern Michigan	12/0
	Pittman, Chase	DL	6-5	273	R	LSU	
64	Pontbriand, Ryan	LS	6-2	250	5	Rice	16/0
21	Pool, Brodney	S	6-2	208	3	Oklahoma	16/8
	Purcell, Melia	DE	6-5	289	R	Hawaii	
10	Quinn, Brady	QB	6-3	226	R	Notre Dame	
	Ricard, Alan	FB	5-11	237	7	Northeast Louisiana	0/0
99	Royce, Orpheus	DE	6-4	315	12	Florida State	9/9
83	Sanders, Steve	WR	6-3	201	1	Bowling Green	0/0
37	Sandy, Justin	DB	6-0	214	2	Northern Iowa	0/0
77	Shaffer, Kevin	OL	6-5	320	6	Tulsa	16/16
73	Smith, Alvin	DL	6-2	307	1	Oregon State	0/0
59	Smith, Clifton	LB	6-3	253	2	Syracuse	1/0
50	Smith, Rob	C	6-4	306	1	Tennessee	1/1
98	Smith, Robaire	DL	6-4	310	8	Michigan State	15/11
91	Smith, Shaun	DT	6-2	325	4	South Carolina	13/0
61	Sowells, Isaac	OG	6-3	324	2	Indiana	1/0
65	Steinbach, Eric	OG	6-6	290	5	Iowa	16/16
	Stephens, Syndric	WR	5-9	182	R	Arizona	
52	Stewart, Matt	LB	6-3	236	7	Vanderbilt	16/4
	Thomas, Joe	OT	6-6	313	R	Wisconsin	
51	Thompson, Chaun	LB	6-2	249	5	West Texas A&M	16/2
72	Tucker, Ryan	OT	6-6	318	11	TCU	9/9
53	Unck, Mason	LB	6-3	238	4	Arizona State	16/0
47	Vickers, Lawrence	FB	6-0	233	2	Colorado	16/1
92	Washington, Ted	DT	6-5	365	17	Louisville	16/16
94	Williams, Leon	LB	6-2	238	2	Miami (Fla.)	16/3
81	Wilson, Travis	WR	6-1	213	2	Oklahoma	4/1
95	Wimbley, Kamerion	LB	6-3	245	2	Florida State	16/15
80	Winslow, Kellen	TE	6-4	248	4	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
24	Wright, Eric	CB	5-11	190	R	UNLV	
29	Wright, Jason	RB	5-10	210	3	Northwestern	13/3
25	Wright, Kenny	CB	6-1	207	9	Northwestern State (La.)	16/9
15	Zastudil, Dave	P	6-3	220	6	Ohio	16/0



# INDIANAPOLIS COLTS



TOM BERG

QB PEYTON MANNING

PREDICTED RECORD: **12-4** 1st place / AFC South

The cream rose to the top in crunch time last season, as the Colts — winners of four straight division titles in addition to going four straight seasons with at least 12 victories — sailed through the postseason into the Super Bowl, where they dismantled the Bears in rainy Miami.

But the team certainly didn't look like a Super Bowl contender the second half of the regular season, dropping four of its final seven games. A leaky defense that surrendered at least 100 yards rushing in every game was con-

sidered a severe handicap before undergoing a stunning transformation in the playoffs.

The Colts must replace four key players who have signed with new teams this offseason — RB Dominic Rhodes on offense and WLB Cato June and CBs Nick Harper and Jason David on defense.

## Offense

Talk about a well-oiled machine. It certainly helps when an offense is entering its 10th season with the same quarterback (Peyton Manning), lead receiver (Marvin Harrison), offensive coordinator (Tom Moore) and OL coach (Howard Mudd).

The unit struggled through one uncharacteristically rough five-game stretch last season in which it scored more than 17 points only once. But it set an NFL record with a third-down conversion rate of 56.1 percent, and the offensive line allowed the fewest sacks in the league for the third straight season.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Peyton Manning added the one ingredient that had been noticeably missing in his stellar career — success in the postseason. The Super Bowl MVP had his third straight season with a league-leading passer rating over 100, threw for an AFC-high 4,397 yards and continued to be one of the most durable QBs in league history, having never missed a game in his



nine-year career. His 89-39 regular-season record over the last eight years is the best among starting NFL quarterbacks, and suddenly his 7-6 postseason mark doesn't look too shabby. Manning has more freedom to audible than any QB in the league and makes the most of his calls at the line of scrimmage, with lots of animated gyrations and hand signals that keep defenses guessing. With safeties playing deeper than ever to avoid big plays last season, he expertly opted for what defenses gave him underneath, nickel-and-dime them to death. He also added a more mobile dimension to his game with five rushing TDs (including the postseason). Jim Sorgi will be Manning's primary backup for the fourth straight season.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ RB Joseph Addai, the team's first-round draft pick last season, combined with the departed Dominic Rhodes to do a great job replacing Edgerrin James, the Colts' long-time featured back. The Colts thought Addai would be a versatile back who could do a little bit of everything, and they were dead-on in their assessment. Addai proved to be adept at running the team's patented stretch play previously perfected by James. Addai makes his cuts on a dime, has excellent upfield acceleration and is a polished receiver out of the backfield with a terrific understanding of blocking assignments. Addai is great at doing the little things, like always stretching forward when he's about to be tackled, and has quickly become a perfect fit in a system that requires its backs to finish runs, pick up blitzes, catch passes and run without a lead blocker, all without wearing down. He has a very even temperament and is extremely conscientious. With Rhodes gone, the complementary spot alongside Addai is wide open, with none of the prospects on the roster at presstime having carried the ball in a regular-season game. The best bet is DeDe Dorsey, who was claimed off waivers from Cincinnati prior to the start of the '06 season. In three preseason games as a rookie with Cincinnati, Dorsey rushed 20 times for 149 yards. The Colts like his run skills and determination and are intrigued by his potential.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Marvin Harrison and Reggie Wayne both had big years that earned them Pro Bowl berths (Wayne's first). Harrison showed no signs of slowing down at the age of 34 and has now gained at least 1,113 yards and scored 10 TDs every season since 1999. He dropped a few more passes than usual but still made some amazingly acrobatic catches with his soft hands and uncanny body control. Harrison remains equally dangerous on long patterns as he is over the middle or making one-handed diving catches. Extremely well-conditioned, he rarely takes plays off and has a knack for making every route look the same. Wayne proved more than worthy of the \$39 million contract he signed early last offseason. While he lacks Harrison's deep speed, he is the team's most dangerous

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
QB  
**PEYTON MANNING**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
FS  
**BOB SANDERS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
WLB **FREDDIE KEIAHO**  
The Colts believe Keiaho can replace Cato June as well as June replaced Marcus Washington. They love his athleticism and energy.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
RCB:  
**KELVIN HAYDEN VS. TIM JENNINGS**  
Hayden showed off his playmaking ability in the Super Bowl with a game-clinching 56-yard interception return for a TD. Jennings is a good tackler with solid cover skills when healthy.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
OG Rick DeMulling, QB John Navarre.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
CB Jason David, S Mike Doss, CB Nick Harper, OLB Cato June, DT Montae Reagar, RB Dominic Rhodes, WR Brandon Stokley.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Anthony Gonzalez	WR	Ohio State	32
2	Tony Ugoh	OG-OT	Arkansas	42
3	Daymeion Hughes	CB	California	95
3	Quinn Pitcock	DT	Ohio State	98
4	Brannon Condren	FS	Troy	131
4	Clint Session	OLB	Pittsburgh	136
5	Roy Hall	WR	Ohio State	169
5	Michael Coe	CB	Alabama State	173
7	Keyunta Dawson	DE	Texas Tech	242



weapon after the catch. Wayne consistently separates with his great quickness and possesses incredibly strong hands. The Colts view first-round pick Anthony Gonzalez as a younger, quicker version of departed No. 3 receiver Brandon Stokley. Gonzalez will challenge Aaron Moorehead, who saw increased playing time last season, for the third-receiver role. The Colts like the mismatches the 6-foot-3 Moorehead creates against smaller cornerbacks. At tight end, the Colts are loaded, with three talented players forming a potent mix. Dallas Clark was the team's most productive receiver in the postseason and is an ideal down-the-seam complement to Harrison and Wayne. He is fast enough to outrun linebackers and safeties. Ben Utecht was on the field a lot last season along with Clark, lining up as an H-back or slot receiver. He is an enticing 6-foot-6 target with enough speed and athleticism to get open. Bryan Fletcher is a solid downfield threat who can make the

tough catch.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Pro Bowler Jeff Saturday has quietly become one of the league's top centers. He makes the line's calls and executes with power and efficiency. He's smart as a whip, and his snaps to Manning are almost always on the money. OLT Tarik Glenn, who also earned a trip to Honolulu (his third straight), takes full advantage of his great athleticism and intelligence and, like Saturday, is a respected team leader. Entering his sixth straight season as the starter at right tackle, Ryan Diem is a solid, steady warrior who plays hurt and is much more powerful and nimble than his size might indicate. OLG Ryan Lilja was in and out of the lineup last season with knee problems, but Dylan Gandy filled in nicely as a sometime starter. Lilja is a strong run blocker, while Gandy is better in pass protection. ORG Jake Scott is an unsung model of efficiency who has started 41 of the 44 games in which he has participated since his arrival as a fifth-round pick in 2004. Second-year pro Charlie Johnson is a versatile backup who played three different positions on the line in '06 and is also capable of lining up as a jumbo tight end. Second-round pick Tony Ugoh, for whom the Colts sacrificed their top pick next year, is expected to eventually replace Glenn but will more likely start out his pro career playing guard. Free-agent addition Rick DeMulling, who began his pro career with the Colts, adds more depth.

## Defense

After giving up a league-worst 173 rushing yards and 22.5 points per game during the regular season, the defense allowed only 82.8 rushing yards and 16.3 points per game in the postseason. Tony Dungy's Tampa-2 scheme worked to perfection in the playoffs, with swarming defenders operating at full speed, expertly filling their gaps. Cato June becomes the fourth quality linebacker to leave the Colts in the last five seasons.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ DRE Dwight Freeney was limited to a career-low 5½ sacks last season and missed the Pro Bowl for the first time since his rookie season. But he had a team-high 33 QB pressures and was a dominant force in the postseason. In addition to being frequently double-teamed, offenses opted to hammer away at the team's ragged run defense a good part of the season, which limited Freeney's sack opportunities. He was also slowed early in the season by shoulder, buttocks and lower-back injuries. Freeney explodes off the line with a dazzling variety of moves and might be the league's quickest edge rusher at the snap of the ball on any surface, but he needs to be more stout against the run. DLE Robert Mathis did well in his first year as a full-time starter opposite Freeney, registering a team-high 9½ sacks. He is also exceptionally quick off the snap with a great burst to the ball. DLT Anthony "Booger" McFarland, obtained in a trade



with Tampa Bay at midseason, improved greatly as the season wore on. He showed deceptive speed and excellent technique while also quickly becoming a key leader in the locker room. After struggling early, undersized DRT Raheem Brock eventually made a successful transition from defensive end, where he started the first four seasons of his career. What Brock lacks in bulk, he makes up with his quickness. Versatile Dan Klecko, Josh Thomas, Ryan LaCasse, Darrell Reid and third-round pick Quinn Pitcock are the primary backups.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ One of the big keys behind the team's defensive turnaround was the insertion of veteran Rob Morris into the starting lineup on the strong side, where he replaced the struggling Gilbert Gardner. Morris, who was re-signed to a much-deserved three-year contract this offseason, compensates for his lack of speed with great instincts and savvy. In the middle, Gary Brackett got off to a slow start last season, but his play improved dramatically as the season progressed. The hard-nosed Brackett is the heart of the interior defense.

He can be very effective when he's on his game, but strong power-running opponents give him problems because he is so undersized. The front-runner to replace Cato June on the weak side is Freddie Keiaho, a 2006 third-round draft pick who really raised eyebrows last year when he did an impressive job replacing the injured Brackett in the middle in a win over arch-rival

New England, despite having only two full days of practice to learn a new position. Keiaho is not real big, but he's bright and very active with a great understanding of the game. He runs all-out all the time and has a lot of the same qualities as star SS Bob Sanders. Gardner, Keith O'Neil, Tyjuan Hagler and Rocky Boiman provide depth and contribute on special teams.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ SS Bob Sanders ignites the defense with his fearless, gung-ho style. Considered the team's top run defender, his 12-game absence after undergoing arthroscopic surgery on his right knee last September was a major blow. Frequently lining up as an extra linebacker in run support, Sanders' energy and playmaking ability is contagious. Pound for pound, he arguably is the league's biggest hitter, always attacking downhill at full speed and sacrificing his body. Antoine Bethea, a sixth-round steal last year, quickly developed into a quality free safety with star potential. With the poise and instincts of a seasoned veteran, Bethea excelled in run support. He seldom missed tackles and was always around the ball. The top candidate to replace the departed Nick Harper at left corner is former first-round pick Marlin Jackson, an extremely versatile performer who saw action at cornerback, strong safety, free safety and nickel back last season. Tony Dungy considers free safety to be Jackson's natural position, but Jackson much prefers playing cornerback. The replacement for the departed Jason David at right corner

will probably be either Super Bowl hero Kelvin Hayden, a second-round pick in '05, Tim Jennings, a second-round pick last season who was slowed by an ankle injury, or a combination of both. Promising third-year pro Matt Giordano and fourth-round pick Brannon Condon add depth at safety, while third-round pick Daymeion Hughes provides depth at cornerback.

## Special teams

PK Adam Vinatieri, the Colts' one major free-agent investment last season, was worth his weight in gold, especially in the Colts' divisional-round victory over the Ravens, when he provided all the scoring with five field goals. Vinatieri bounced back flawlessly from an early groin injury that forced him to miss three games. Hunter Smith continues to be one of the league's most underrated punters and arguably the best placement holder. Terrence Wilkins, a free-agent signee in May of '06, did a nice job returning kicks, displaying fearlessness and a maturity that was lacking in his previous two stints with the Colts. Provided Wilkins resigns, he could be challenged by second-year pro T.J. Rushing.

## Summary

With their proven offense, and their great knack for effectively replacing key players when necessary and overcoming whatever obstacles might come their way both on and off the field, the Colts once again must be considered a very dangerous contender.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	26-21	43-24	21-14	31-28	14-13	36-22	34-31	27-20	17-16	14-21	45-21	17-20	17-20	17-44	34-16	24-27	27-22	
Total net yards	327	515	272	352	320	452	437	354	384	335	420	451	339	394	319	399	6070	
Rushing yards	55	125	63	160	154	110	92	53	148	88	237	100	34	112	114	117	1762	
Passing yards	272	390	209	192	166	342	345	301	236	247	183	351	305	282	205	282	4308	
Rushing plays	23	35	20	36	34	25	21	25	29	23	41	29	20	29	18	31	439	
Sacks allowed	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	15	
Had intercepted	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	9	
Fumbles lost	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	1	10	
Yards penalized	20	60	35	64	45	27	55	68	54	35	30	59	71	35	15	45	718	
Punts	2	1	7	4	6	2	1	1	3	3	2	3	6	2	1	4	48	

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	30:03	25:04	39:24	31:57	26:05	30:54	31:03	30:34	26:12	33:42	29:42	29:05	31:37	26:56	35:59	29:12	30:28	
Total net yards	433	299	297	321	277	325	396	349	162	342	300	382	447	278	354	354	5316	
Rushing yards	186	108	191	135	214	114	227	148	111	117	149	219	375	133	191	150	2768	
Passing yards	247	191	106	186	63	211	169	201	51	225	151	163	72	145	163	204	2548	
Rushing plays	28	23	40	37	31	24	36	33	31	36	25	35	42	30	42	26	519	
Sacks allowed	0	4	1	3	0	2	1	0	4	1	2	0	1	4	0	2	25	
Had intercepted	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	4	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	15	
Fumbles lost	1	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	11	
Yards penalized	64	58	38	47	36	91	24	81	40	53	15	34	31	10	25	20	667	
Punts	1	4	4	3	6	4	2	1	4	3	3	3	1	4	2	2	47	

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

RUSHING																	
Addal	7-26-0	16-82-0	3-15-0	20-84-1	13-62-0	11-85-0	17-93-0	18-43-1	13-78-1	13-50-0	24-171-4	16-56-0	11-22-0	8-50-0	15-100-0	21-64-0	226-1081-7
Carthon		3-4-1															3-4-1
Manning		2-2-0	3-0-1	1-1-1	1-8-0	1-(-1)-0	1-(-1)-0	3-(-3)-0	2-(-2)-0	1-8-0	2-(-2)-0	1-5-0	1-1-1	2-10-0	1-(-1)-0	1-11-1	23-36-4
Rhodes	16-29-1	14-37-1	14-48-0	15-75-1	20-84-0	13-26-0	3-0-0	4-13-0	14-72-0	9-30-0	15-68-0	12-39-1	8-11-1	19-52-0	2-15-0	9-42-0	187-641-5
PASSING **																	
Manning	25-41-1	26-38-0	14-31-0	21-30-0	20-31-1	25-35-0	32-39-0	20-36-1	27-39-0	20-39-2	14-20-1	21-28-2	25-50-1	29-36-0	21-27-0	22-37-0	362-557-9
	276-1	400-3	219-1	217-1	166-2	342-4	345-3	326-2	236-1	254-2	183-1	351-1	313-0	282-4	205-3	282-2	4397-31
RECEIVING																	
Addal	3-22-0	2-22-1	3-13-0	3-15-0	2-15-0	1-20-0	5-37-0		7-46-0	1-7-0	2-37-0	1-11-0	1-14-0	2-29-0	4-8-0	3-29-0	40-325-1
Clark	3-39-1	3-26-0	1-30-1	2-14-0	2-15-0	2-41-1	6-68-0	2-42-0	3-28-0	1-4-1	1-4-0					4-56-0	30-367-4
Fletcher		2-15-1		3-19-1		3-28-0	1-9-0		1-13-0		1-18-0	3-56-0	1-5-0		2-29-0	1-10-0	18-202-2
Harrison	9-113-0	7-127-0	6-94-0	7-79-0	3-29-1	7-73-2	5-38-0	8-145-2	2-21-0	6-94-0	1-8-0	7-172-1	6-101-0	8-86-3	8-112-2	5-74-1	95-1366-12
Klecko																1-2-1	1-2-1
Moorehead		2-17-0													3-15-0	1-9-1	8-82-1
Proehl													2-23-0	1-7-0			3-30-0
Rhodes	3-14-0	2-22-0			5-26-0	1-6-0	3-43-0		3-20-0	3-20-0	3-21-0	5-29-0	3-18-0	4-28-0	1-6-0		36-251-0
Stokley		1-10-1			5-57-0							1-8-0	1-10-0				8-85-1
Utecht	3-21-0	1-26-0		2-16-0		4-52-0	2-12-0	4-49-0	7-66-0	2-18-0	2-18-0	1-18-0	3-32-0	4-35-0	2-14-0		37-377-0
Wayne	4-67-0	6-135-0	4-82-0	4-74-0	3-24-1	7-122-1	10-138-3	6-90-0	4-42-1	7-111-1	4-77-1	3-57-0	8-110-0	7-84-1	3-27-0	6-70-0	86-1310-9

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Indianapolis Colts

7001 West 56th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46254

317/297-2658

Official Website: www.colts.com

Stadium: RCA Dome

Capacity: 55,531

Playing surface: FieldTurf

2006 record: 12-4; First in AFC South

Tony Dungy

**Owner and CEO:** James Irsay; **President:** Bill Polian; **Vice president of football operations:** Chris Polian; **Director of player personnel:** Tom Telesco; **Director of pro player personnel:** Clyde Powers

**Head coach:** Tony Dungy

**Assistant coaches:** Jim Caldwell, *asst. head coach/quarterbacks*; Clyde Christensen, *receivers*; Richard Howell, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Gene Huey, *running backs*; Ron Meeks, *defensive coordinator*; Pete Metzelaars, *offensive quality control*; Tom Moore, *offensive coordinator*; Howard Mudd, *offensive line*; Mike Murphy, *linebackers*; Rod Perry, *defensive backs*; Russ Purnell, *special teams*; John Teerlinck, *defensive line*; Ricky Thomas, *tight ends*; Jon Torine, *strength and conditioning*; Alan Williams, *defensive backs*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
WR	87 WAYNE	11 Gonzalez*	84 Standeford	15 Thorpe
OLT	78 GLENN	74 C. Johnson		
OLG	65 LJJA	57 Gandy	69 Ulrich	
C	63 SATURDAY	57 Gandy		
ORG	73 SCOTT	67 Ugoh*	64 DeMulling	
ORT	71 DIEM	76 Federkiel		
TE	44 CLARK	86 Utecht	81 Fletcher	
WR	88 HARRISON	85 Moorehead	83 R. Hall*	
QB	18 MANNING	12 Sorgi	16 Navarre	
RB	29 ADDAI	25 Dorsey	30 C. Dawson*	
H-B	86 UTECHT	81 Fletcher	83 R. Hall*	
DEFENSE				
DLE	98 MATHIS	91 Thomas	96 Schobel	
DLT	92 McFARLAND	90 Klecko	72 Pitcock*	
DRT	79 BROCK	95 Reid	90 Klecko	
DRE	93 FREENEY	99 LaCasse	61 K. Dawson*	
SLB	94 MORRIS	51 Gardner	50 Boiman	55 Session*
MLB	58 BRACKETT	94 Morris	59 K. Hall*	
WLB	54 KEIAHO	53 O'Neil	56 Hagler	
LCB	28 JACKSON	20 Hughes*	34 Rushing	
RCB	26 HAYDEN	27 Jennings	32 Coe*	
FS	41 BETHEA	43 Giordano	42 Condren*	
SS	21 SANDERS	43 Giordano	42 Condren*	
SPECIALISTS				
P	17 SMITH			
PK	4 VINATIERI			
H	17 SMITH			
PR	10 WILKINS	34 Rushing		
KR	10 WILKINS	34 Rushing		
LS	48 SNOW	86 Utecht		

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 6	New Orleans	8:30 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Houston	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	Denver	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	Tampa Bay	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 14	BYE	
Oct. 22	at Jacksonville	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 28	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	New England	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 11	at San Diego	8:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	Kansas City	1 p.m.
Nov. 22	at Atlanta	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 2	Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Baltimore	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 16	at Oakland	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 23	Houston	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	Tennessee	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Indianapolis

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At New York Giants	(-3)	26-21
Sept. 17	Houston	(-12)	43-24
Sept. 24	Jacksonville	(-6.5)	21-14
Oct. 1	At New York Jets	(-7.5)	31-28
Oct. 8	Tennessee	(-17)	14-13
Oct. 15	BYE		
Oct. 22	Washington	(-8)	36-22
Oct. 29	At Denver	(+3)	34-31
Nov. 5	At New England	(+3)	27-20
Nov. 12	Buffalo	(-12)	17-16
Nov. 19	At Dallas	(-1)	14-21
Nov. 26	Philadelphia	(-10)	45-21
Dec. 3	At Tennessee	(-7.5)	17-20
Dec. 10	At Jacksonville	(-1)	17-44
Dec. 18	Cincinnati	(-3.5)	34-16
Dec. 24	At Houston	(-9)	24-27
Dec. 31	Miami	(-9.5)	27-22
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 6	Kansas City	(-7)	23-8
Jan. 13	At Baltimore	(+4)	15-6
Jan. 21	New England	(-3.5)	38-34
Feb. 4	Chicago	(-7)	29-17

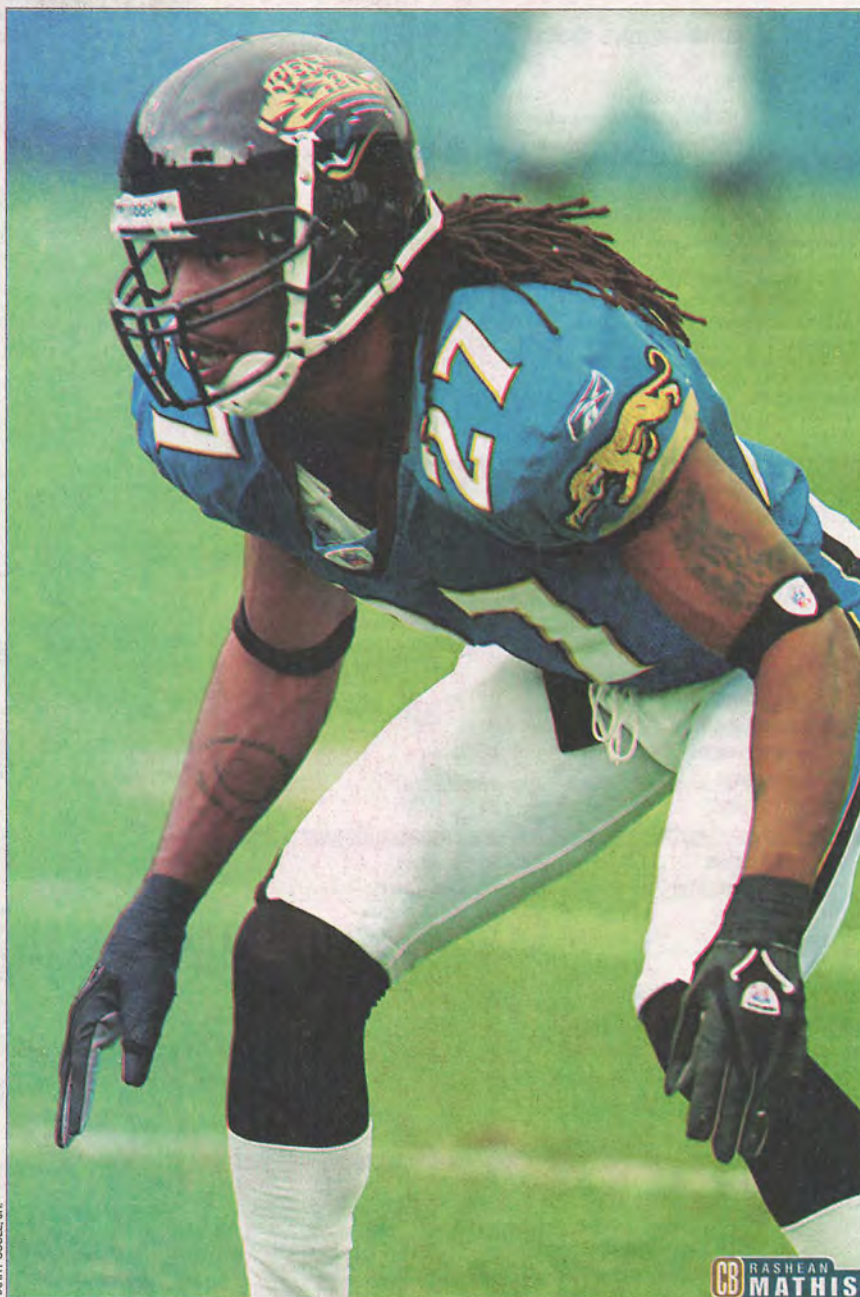
## COLTS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
29	Addai, Joseph	RB	5-11	214	2	LSU	16/0
8	Andrus, Shane	PK	5-10	190	1	Murray State	0/0
49	Archer, Brandon	LB	6-0	239	1	Kansas State	
80	Aromashodu, Devin	WR	6-2	200	1	Auburn	0/0
41	Bethea, Antoine	S	5-11	203	2	Howard	14/14
9	Betts, Josh	QB	6-2	217	1	Miami (Ohio)	0/0
62	Bimper, Albert	OG	6-0	300	1	Colorado State	0/0
50	Boiman, Rocky	LB	6-4	236	6	Notre Dame	16/1
58	Brackett, Gary	LB	5-11	235	5	Rutgers	14/14
79	Brock, Raheem	DT	6-4	274	6	Temple	16/16
	Bullitt, Melvin	S	6-1	201	1	Texas A&M	
60	Charleston, Jeff	DE	6-4	265	1	Idaho State	0/0
44	Clark, Dallas	TE	6-3	252	5	Iowa	12/12
32	Coe, Michael	CB	6-0	190	1	Alabama State	
38	Coley, Trevis	DB	6-2	217	1	Southern Mississippi	0/0
42	Condren, Brannon	S	6-1	205	1	Troy	
62	Craig, Cameron	DE	6-3	247	1	Army	
31	Davis, Tanard	DB	5-9	184	1	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
30	Dawson, Clifton	RB	5-10	210	1	Harvard	
61	Dawson, Keyunta	DE	6-3	254	1	Texas Tech	
64	DeMulling, Rick	OG	6-4	310	7	Idaho	14/7
14	DePriest, Michael	WR	6-0	185	1	Texas Christian	
71	Diem, Ryan	OT	6-6	320	7	Northern Illinois	15/15
25	Dorsey, DeDe	RB	5-11	196	2	Lindenwood	13/0
69	Echols, Quintin	DT	6-1	313	1	Kansas State	
76	Federkiel, Dan	OT	6-6	290	1	Calgary	2/0
81	Fletcher, Bryan	TE	6-5	230	3	UCLA	15/3
93	Freene, Dwight	DE	6-1	268	6	Syracuse	16/16
57	Gandy, Dylan	OG	6-3	302	3	Texas Tech	16/11
51	Gardner, Gilbert	LB	6-1	228	4	Purdue	15/12
43	Giordano, Matt	DB	5-11	200	3	California	12/11
78	Glenn, Tarik	OT	6-5	332	11	California	16/16
11	Gonzalez, Anthony	WR	6-0	193	1	Ohio State	
47	Guzman, Ramon	LB	6-2	232	1	Buffalo	
56	Hagler, Tyjuan	LB	6-0	236	2	Cincinnati	9/0
59	Hall, KaMichael	LB	6-0	219	1	Georgia Tech	
83	Hall, Roy	WR	6-3	240	1	Ohio State	
5	Hare, Brian	WR	6-2	192	1	Purdue	0/0
49	Harline, Johnny	TE	6-4	245	1	Brigham Young	
88	Harrison, Marvin	WR	6-0	185	12	Syracuse	16/16
26	Hayden, Kelvin	CB	6-0	195	3	Illinois	15/1
6	Hodges, Reggie	P	6-0	226	3	Ball State	0/0
46	Hoyte, Brandon	LB	5-11	246	1	Notre Dame	0/0
20	Hughes, Daymelon	CB	5-10	190	1	California	
28	Jackson, Marlin	CB	6-0	196	3	Michigan	14/8
27	Jennings, Tim	CB	5-8	185	2	Georgia	11/0
74	Johnson, Charlie	OT	6-4	305	2	Oklahoma State	16/0
68	Johnson, Tom	DT	6-2	286	1	Southern Mississippi	0/0
54	Keiaho, Freddy	LB	5-11	226	2	San Diego State	14/0
36	Keith, Kenton	RB	5-11	198	1	New Mexico State	0/0
90	Klecko, Dan	DT	5-11	275	5	Temple	10/0
92	Labinjo, Mike	LB	6-1	255	2	Michigan State	0/0
59	LaCasse, Ryan	DE	6-2	257	2	Syracuse	12/0
45	Lawton, Luke	RB	6-0	245	2	McNeese State	0/0
40	LeJeune, Norman	DB	6-0	210	1	LSU	0/0
65	Lilja, Ryan	OG	6-2	290	4	Kansas State	11/5
68	Lobdell, Joe	OT	6-6	288	1	Northern Iowa	
18	Manning, Peyton	QB	6-5	230	10	Tennessee	16/16
98	Mathis, Robert	DE	6-2	245	5	Alabama A&M	16/16
92	McFarland, Anthony	DT	6-0	300	9	LSU	11/11
2	McGann, Mike	QB	6-5	225	1	Temple	0/0
3	McMahan, Kevin	WR	6-3	193	1	Maine	0/0
66	Meekins, Ramel	DT	5-11	284	1	Rutgers	
85	Moorehead, Aaron	WR	6-3	200	5	Illinois	12/0
94	Morris, Rob	LB	6-2	243	8	Brigham Young	15/5
16	Navarre, John	QB	6-6	241	4	Michigan	0/0
53	O'Neil, Keith	LB	6-0	240	5	Northern Arizona	10/0
72	Pitcock, Quinn	DT	6-2	299	1	Ohio State	
95	Reid, Darrell	DT	6-2	288	3	Minnesota	15/0
47	Robinson, Gijon	TE	6-1	255	1	Missouri Western	
34	Rushing, T.J.	CB	5-9	186	2	Stanford	6/0
21	Sanders, Bob	S	5-8	206	4	Iowa	4/4
63	Saturday, Jeff	C	6-2	295	9	North Carolina	16/16
96	Schobel, Bo	DE	6-5	264	4	Texas Christian	14/0
73	Scott, Jake	OG	6-5	295	4	Idaho	16/16
55	Session, Clint	LB	6-0	235	1	Pittsburgh	
13	Shelton, Trent	WR	6-0	202	1	Baylor	
97	Simon, Corey	DT	6-2	300	8	Florida State	0/0
37	Smith, Antonio	CB	5-9	192	1	Ohio State	
17	Smith, Hunter	P	6-2	209	9	Notre Dame	16/0
48	Snow, Justin	TE	6-3	240	8	Baylor	16/0
12	Sorgi, Jim	QB	6-5	196	4	Wisconsin	1/0
84	Standeford, John	WR	6-4	206	2	Purdue	0/0
91	Thomas, Josh	DE	6-5	271	4	Syracuse	14/10
15	Thorpe, Crapthonso	WR	6-0	187	1	Florida State	0/0
75	Toudouze, Michael	OT	6-6	303	1	Texas Christian	0/0
67	Ugoh, Tony	OG-OT	6-5	301	1	Arkansas	
69	Ulrich, Matt	OG	6-2	309	3	Northwestern	5/0
86	Utecht, Ben	TE	6-6	251	4	Minnesota	15/15
4	Vinatieri, Adam	PK	6-0	202	12	South Dakota State	13/0
35	Ware, Scott	DB	6-2	215	1	USC	0/0
87	Wayne, Reggie	WR	6-0	198	7	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
66	Wilder, Sam	OG	6-5	300	1	Colorado	0/0
45	Worsley, Victor	LB	6-1	234	1	North Carolina	



# JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS

HARRY SCULL, JR.



CB RASHEAN MATHIS

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **9-7** 2nd place /  
AFC South

For the first time in the Jack Del Rio era, the Jaguars regressed. They dropped from a 12-4 record and a playoff appearance in 2005 to an 8-8 mark in '06. The defense — Del Rio's specialty — is not the problem. Jack-

sonville boasted a top-five unit last season despite suffering a slew of injuries.

But the offense has undergone a makeover. Del Rio fired three assistant coaches and

upgraded the offensive line and WR corps. There is also a changing of the guard at tailback, as veteran Fred Taylor is ceding more carries to Maurice Jones-Drew. And at the QB position, Del Rio has settled on Byron Leftwich as his starter. But how long their relationship remains civil is anyone's guess.

The Jaguars are not far off from returning to the postseason because of their dominant defense, but unless the holes on offense are fixed, they could again be watching the playoffs from home.

## Offense

Head coach Jack Del Rio turned to the college ranks to replace fired offensive coordinator Carl Smith, QB coach Ken Anderson and WR coach Steve Walters. Del Rio replaced Smith with ex-Arizona State head coach Dirk Koetter, who has no previous NFL experience; Anderson with ex-Alabama head coach Mike Shula; and Walters with Todd Monken, a career college assistant. Koetter's offense calls for a power running game up the middle to set up a vertical passing attack. The Jaguars have the right personnel for Koetter's style with their two-headed rushing attack and a strong-armed quarterback. All that is missing is consistent





play from the WR position.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Byron Leftwich is the starter once again. Leftwich started the first six games last season before being benched by head coach Jack Del Rio because of an ankle injury that would require season-ending surgery. Backup David Garrard started the final 10 games but failed to distinguish himself. Even third-stringer Quinn Gray saw some game action. Plenty of questions remain about Leftwich, a former first-round pick entering the final year of his rookie contract. Leftwich has a very strong arm, but he is not quick-twitched in anything he does — he has a long wind-up and delivery and takes long strides when running. Leftwich also struggles to create when plays break down. Leftwich is a great leader and possesses plenty of intangibles. The relationship between Leftwich and Del Rio bares watching, as it was strained last season and Del Rio could have a quick hook with Leftwich again in 2007. Garrard is an exceptional athlete, but he does not make all the throws consistently enough to warrant a spot in the starting lineup. Gray is also a great athlete, but he is still learning how to play the position.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ The Jaguars have one of the best tailback tandems in the league. Maurice Jones-Drew, a mighty-mite runner drafted for his exceptional return skills, scored 15 touchdowns from scrimmage as a rookie, including at least one in each of the final eight games. The 5-foot-7 Jones-Drew runs heavy for a little man and is tough enough to carry the ball between the tackles. If Jones-Drew can find a crease, he is capable of breaking off a big play with his balance and burst. He is more than just a third-down scatback and even possesses the tools to possibly take over the featured role from Fred Taylor, who turned 31 in January. Taylor had a bounce-back season in 2006, gaining a career-best 5.0 yards per carry and rushing for more than 1,000 yards for the fourth time in the past five years. Taylor is still capable of reeling off big plays, but he has lost some of his burst. In the off-

season, he received the long-term contract extension he long desired, but that does not mean his starting job is safe. FB Greg Jones missed all of last season with a knee injury, but he figures to take away some short-yardage work from Taylor. If Jones can get a full head of steam, he's a strong runner and tough to bring down. For a third running back, Alvin Pearson is a solid option. Pearson does not do any one thing great, but he does a lot of things well.

**RECEIVERS** ■ It has been more than a year since Jimmy Smith's abrupt retirement, but the Jaguars have still not found a suitable replacement as the No. 1 receiver. Former first-round pick Matt Jones has yet to realize his tremendous potential, and he is still raw as a receiver. His transition from college quarterback to pro receiver has been slow. Jones is not quick off the line despite possessing excellent deep speed, and he has

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **MAURICE JONES-DREW**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
CB **RASHEAN MATTHIS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**TE MARCEDES LEWIS**  
An ankle injury slowed Lewis as a rookie, but he should figure prominently in a passing game that lacks a true No. 1 wideout.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
**OLT:**  
**KHALIF BARNES VS. MAURICE WILLIAMS**  
Free-agent Tony Pashos takes over the starting OLT job, bumping long-time starter Williams to the left side to compete with Barnes.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
S Kevin McCadam, WR Dennis Northcutt, OLT Tony Pashos, TE Jermaine Wiggins.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
TE Kyle Brady, FS Deon Grant, P Chris Hanson.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Reggie Nelson	FS	Florida	21
2	Justin Durant	OLB	Hampton	48
3	Mike Walker	WR	Central Florida	79
4	Adam Podlesh	P	Maryland	101
4	Brian Smith	DE	Missouri	113
5	Uche Nwaneri	OG	Purdue	149
5	Josh Gattis	FS	Wake Forest	150
5	Derek Landri	DT	Notre Dame	166
7	John Broussard	WR	San Jose State	229
7	Chad Nkang	LB	Elon (N.C.)	251
7	Andrew Carnahan	OT	Arizona State	252



not developed a good feel for the game. Reggie Williams, another former first-round pick, is a big, tough short-to-intermediate receiver and a physical blocker, but he lacks big-play potential. Ernest Wilford has ideal size and strength to patrol the middle of the field. He is also a good pass catcher, but he lacks speed. Free-agent addition Dennis Northcutt is on the downside of his career and his playmaking skills are beginning to deteriorate. Third-round pick WR Mike Walker has sub-4.4 speed but plays more like a possession receiver than a deep threat. TE Mercedes Lewis was slowed by an ankle injury for most of the first half of his rookie season and failed to make the impact expected of a first-round pick. Lewis is a good athlete with enough speed to make plays downfield. Scouts say his blocking exceeded expectations during his rookie campaign. George Waghster emerged as a factor in the passing game last season and

should challenge Lewis for playing time if he can recover from offseason shoulder surgery. Waghster has good hands, but he still needs to work on his blocking. The Jaguars added veteran Jermaine Wiggins in the offseason to replace Kyle Brady, who joined the Patriots in free agency. Wiggins will be reunited with assistant head coach/offense Mike Tice; he had the two most productive seasons of his career under Tice in Minnesota.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The Jaguars bolstered their line by adding former Ravens OLT Tony Pashos in free agency. Pashos fits the Jaguars' tough-guy mentality and is very strong. He has a solid understanding of angles, which helps offset his limited change-of-direction ability. The addition of Pashos bumps longtime starter Maurice Williams to the OLT spot, where he will compete for the starting job with Khalif Barnes, who started 15 games there last season. Barnes has good feet but is considered soft by some scouts. Williams is a solid fit on the right side, but he may not be athletic enough to play the OLT position. He is most ideal as a No. 3 swing tackle. OLG Chris Naeole has anchored the right side of

the line, especially in the running game, for the past five seasons, starting all but one game in that stretch. Naeole is a very strong, one-shot striker. Scouts are impressed with OLG Vince Manuwai's consistent effort but question his awareness at times. Some evaluators believe his level of play has declined since his rookie season. C Brad Meester is smart and stays on his feet. He has good balance and can get to the second level. Dennis Norman is a steady backup with the ability to play the OG and C positions.

## Defense

Despite a bevy of injuries that forced several young players into prominent roles, the No. 2-ranked defense carried the Jaguars in 2006. Starters Reggie Hayward, Mike Peterson and Donovan Darius finished the season on injured reserve, and Marcus Stroud missed five games with various injuries. But those injuries afforded opportunities for up-and-comers Bobby McCray and Clint Ingram to prove they deserve starting roles in '07. With Pro Bowlers at every level, it is hard to imagine coordinator Mike Smith's well-coached unit falling off much this season.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ DTs John Henderson and Marcus Stroud are among the most dominant pair of interior linemen in the league. Henderson is big and strong and plays with great effort at all times. He also has quickness to reach the edge. Stroud is a better athlete than Henderson and stronger at the point of attack. DE Reggie Hayward suffered a ruptured Achilles tendon in Week One and missed all of last season. Hayward's absence opened the door for Bobby McCray, a solid reserve for the previous two seasons. McCray started the final 12 games last season and finished with a



team-high 10 sacks. McCray plays more athletically than he looks and has a feel for getting to the edge. McCray and Hayward will likely compete for the starting DLE spot, if McCray, who is demanding a long-term extension, signs his one-year tender. On the other side, Paul Spicer is a try-hard battler better-suited to play inside and is very strong against the run. The Jaguars have a pair of quality backups for Stroud and Henderson but are lacking depth on the outside. DT Rob Meier can't hold up if he plays every down, but he is very effective, especially rushing the passer, in short spells. DT Tony McDaniel is really talented, in the same mold of Henderson, but he is immature off the field and inconsistent on it.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ With Mike Peterson sidelined for most of the season because of a knee injury, Daryl Smith emerged as the star of the linebacking corps. Smith moved to the "Mike" position after Peterson went down and led the team in tackles. Smith, an outside 'backer in his first two seasons in the league, played so well inside last season that he could stay there in 2007, and Peterson could be shifted outside. Smith plays hard, is a very sure tackler and takes good angles. Peterson is a great athlete with very good instincts. Smith and Peterson can both line up inside or outside and be equally effective. SLB Clint Ingram also emerged in Peterson's absence last season. Ingram started 11 games as a rookie and impressed scouts with his discipline. Ingram's strong

play as a rookie likely secured him a starting spot in '07, relegating veteran Nick Greisen to the bench. Greisen is a decent athlete but gets by with his effort and strength. Second-round pick Justin Durant is somewhat undersized, but he possesses the speed and toughness the Jaguars covet. He will likely make his mark on special teams and as a backup at the WLB position as a rookie. Jorge Cordova and Brent Hawkins are converted ends who are still learning the position at the pro level. Rookie Brian Smith could also make the switch from college end to pro linebacker.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ LCB Rashean Mathis came into his own last season when he finished tied for third in the league with eight interceptions. Mathis is a good technician with a solid feel in zone. He is a strong tackler and reads the quarterback well. RCB Brian Williams' first season in Jacksonville was a major disappointment. Williams does not have top-end speed and, too often, gets caught out of position. Backup CB Scott Starks is undersized but a tough tackler. Starks plays hard and is quick with an explosive burst of speed. CB Dee Webb is a good athlete, but he does not fit the Jaguars' philosophy because he lacks toughness. Starting SS Donovan Darius is explosive on contact and a good tackler. Darius plays hard but is beginning to lose a step as injuries have cost him 20 games in the past two seasons. First-round pick Reggie Nelson is expected to replace dependable FS Deon

Grant, who signed with Seattle in free agency. Nelson is instinctive and has great range, but he won't make the coverage calls like most players at his position are expected to. Gerald Sensabaugh is a smart player, but he is not as athletic as Nelson.

## Special teams

PK Josh Scobee improved his field-goal accuracy in his third season, jumping from a career-low 76.7 percent in 2005 to a career-best 81.3 last season. The Jaguars rewarded the strong-legged Scobee with a long-term contract extension in the offseason. P Chris Hanson's 33.4-yard net punting average in '06 was the worst in the league, which led to his release in May. The Jaguars spent a fourth-round pick on P Adam Podlesh, who will get every opportunity to win the job. RB Maurice Jones-Drew was drafted in '06 for his return abilities, and he delivered the third-best kickoff-return average in the NFL as a rookie. But Jones-Drew's days as a return specialist may be numbered because he is a key component of the offense.

## Summary

This is a make-or-break season for head coach Jack Del Rio, who has only guided the Jaguars to one playoff appearance in four years. Del Rio has a playoff-caliber defense in place, but the offense has too many question marks for a postseason run. If Byron Leftwich can bounce back from an injury-plagued 2006, and a No. 1 receiver steps forward, the offense, with its tremendous 1-2 punch in the running game, could finally carry its weight.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																		TOTALS
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17		
OPPONENT	CHI	ATL	IND	WASH	ARI	HOU	PIL	TEN	NOU	IAA	BUF	MAA	IND	TEN	ARI	IAA		
Score	24-17	9-0	14-21	30-36	41-0	7-27	13-6	37-7	10-13	26-10	24-27	24-10	44-17	17-24	21-24	30-35		
Total net yards	307	362	297	307	312	220	285	342	322	414	323	353	447	396	339	397		
Rushing yards	78	110	191	32	181	102	209	173	118	165	207	150	375	193	144	113		
Passing yards	229	252	106	275	131	118	76	169	204	249	116	203	72	203	195	284		
Rushing plays	32	30	40	16	39	25	46	30	19	43	35	31	42	41	22	22		
Sacks allowed	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	2	2	0	3	4	1	4	1	3		
Had intercepted	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	3	0	1		
Fumbles lost	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0		
Yards penalized	41	86	38	35	62	35	44	20	65	65	108	56	31	25	60	35		
Punts	6	6	4	5	4	7	5	5	4	4	6	3	1	2	5	6		

	OPPONENT STATISTICS																
Time of poss.***	25:48	22:35	20:36	35:28	27:58	33:30	23:09	29:49	37:33	19:41	25:50	29:04	28:23	15:38	37:13	30:38	27:48
Total net yards	323	153	272	481	177	349	227	262	306	247	241	309	339	98	359	395	4538
Rushing yards	88	26	63	152	132	131	85	108	148	25	72	68	34	41	117	170	1460
Passing yards	235	127	209	329	45	218	142	154	158	222	169	241	305	57	242	225	3078
Rushing plays	22	14	20	40	34	34	20	32	42	14	23	19	20	16	30	40	420
Sacks allowed	2	2	2	0	6	1	4	1	3	1	0	4	2	3	1	3	35
Had intercepted	3	2	0	1	3	0	0	3	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	2	20
Fumbles lost	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Yards penalized	93	25	35	40	59	17	50	20	51	35	55	10	71	40	51	32	684
Punts	5	8	7	5	6	5	7	7	5	6	6	3	6	5	5	4	90

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Garrard							8-36-0	2-14-0	4-44-0	9-31-0	5-28-0	6-24-0	4-4-0	6-43-0	2-11-0	1-15-0	47-250-0
Gray																	2-26-2
Jones-Drew	2-8-0	2-4-0	13-103-0	3-3-0	13-59-2	8-10-1	21-77-0	8-56-0	3-11-1	9-45-1	8-78-1	5-46-1	15-166-2	25-98-1	19-131-2	12-46-1	166-941-13
Leftwich	5-7-1	5-4-0	6-14-1	5-14-0	4-2-0												26-2-2
Pearman		1-10-0					1-0-0	3-9-0		19-45-1							25-41-2
Taylor	21-74-1	22-92-0	21-74-0	7-16-0	21-111-1	16-84-0	15-103-1	13-79-0	12-63-0	24-79-1	22-101-0	19-76-0	9-131-1	2-37-0		7-26-0	231-1146-5
Toyfield	3-6-5-0													8-25-0	1-2-0		10-22-0

[illegible]

	RECEIVING																											
M. Jones	5-71-0	6-73-0		2-13-0			3-66-0	1-11-0	1-49-0	2-8-1	6-128-1	1-7-0	3-12-1	4-69-1	5-104-0	41-643-4												
Jones-Drew		2-6-0	4-32-1	3-53-1		7-58-0	3-20-0	2-29-0	4-56-0	2-16-0	5-47-0	1-15-0	3-47-0	6-41-0	4-16-0	46-436-2												
Lewis				2-40-0				2-11-0	1-6-0	1-9-0	1-1-1	1-19-0	3-27-0		2-13-0	13-126-1												
Taylor	6-41-0	3-29-0	1-(-1)-0	1-7-0	1-32-0	1-19-0	1-2-0		5-71-0	3-16-0					1-26-1	23-242-1												
Willford	3-58-0	4-27-0	3-32-0	3-30-0	1-40-0	2-26-0	1-16-0	3-44-2	2-50-0	5-72-0	1-12-0	2-33-0	2-12-0	2-44-0	2-28-0	36-524-2												
R. Williams	6-47-1	8-95-0	2-8-0	4-94-2	4-53-1	1-13-0	1-13-0	1-11-0	1-12-0	1-5-0	4-31-0	5-42-0	3-16-0	4-88-0	2-9-0	6-90-0	52-616-4											
Wrightster	3-20-0	3-30-0	4-25-0	5-53-0	2-13-1	1-3-0	2-4-0	1-14-1	1-8-0	4-54-0	3-33-0	1-16-1		5-27-0	2-28-0	2-25-0	39-353-4											

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Jack Del Rio

**Jacksonville Jaguars**

ALLTEL Stadium  
One ALLTEL Stadium Place  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
904/633-6000  
Official Website: www.jaguars.com  
Stadium: ALLTEL Stadium  
Capacity: 67,164  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 8-8; Third in AFC South

**Chairman and CEO:** Wayne Weaver; **Senior V.P.-football operations/general counsel:** Paul Vance; **V.P. of player personnel:** James Harris; **Director of pro personnel:** Charles Bailey; **Director of college scouting:** Gene Smith

**Head coach:** Jack Del Rio

**Assistant coaches:** Mark Asanovich, *strength and conditioning*; Devin Bonik, *asst. to the head coach*; Dave Campo, *asst. head coach/secondary*; Joe DeCamillis, *special-teams coordinator*; Mark Duffner, *linebackers*; Les Ebert, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Ray Hamilton, *defensive line*; Andy Heck, *offensive line*; Dirk Koetter, *offensive coordinator*; Ted Monachino, *asst. defensive line*; Todd Monken, *wide receivers*; Kennedy Pola, *running backs*; Robert Prince, *asst. wide receivers*; Alvin Reynolds, *defensive backs*; Mike Shula, *quarterbacks*; Mike Smith, *defensive coordinator*; Mike Tice, *asst. head coach/offense*; Tom Williams, *asst. special teams*.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART****OFFENSE**

WR <b>18 M. JONES</b>	86 Northcutt	Walker*
OLT <b>89 BARNES</b>	74 M. Williams	76 Collier
OLG <b>67 MANUWAI</b>	62 Norman	
C <b>63 MEESTER</b>	62 Norman	61 Connolly
ORG <b>65 NAEOLE</b>	62 Norman	Nwaneri*
ORT <b>79 PASHOS</b>	73 McDougle	
TE <b>89 LEWIS</b>	87 Wrightster	84 Wiggins
WR <b>11 R. WILLIAMS</b>	19 Wilford	
QB <b>7 LEFTWICH</b>	9 Garrard	5 Gray
RB <b>28 TAYLOR</b>	32 Jones-Drew	34 Pearman 22 Toefield
FB <b>33 G. JONES</b>	36 Wimbush	

**DEFENSE**

DLE <b>93 MCCRAY</b>	97 Hayward	90 Wyche	94 Mincey
DLT <b>98 HENDERSON</b>	96 McDaniel	Landri*	
DRT <b>99 STROUD</b>	92 Meier		
DRE <b>95 SPICER</b>	97 Hayward	57 Hawkins	
SLB <b>51 INGRAM</b>	55 Greisen	58 Cordova	B. Smith*
MLB <b>52 D. SMITH</b>	54 Peterson	50 Gilbert	
WLB <b>54 PETERSON</b>	Durant*	53 Thomas	57 Hawkins
LCB <b>27 MATHIS</b>	23 Webb	21 Cousin	38 Roberson
RCB <b>29 B. WILLIAMS</b>	31 Starks	25 Carroll	
SS <b>20 DARIUS</b>	47 McCadam	41 Sorensen	
FS <b>NELSON*</b>	43 Sensabaugh	42 Fudge	

**SPECIALISTS**

P <b>PODLESH*</b>			
PK <b>10 SCOBEE</b>			
H <b>PODLESH*</b>	9 Garrard		
PR <b>86 NORTHCUIT</b>	34 Pearman	32 Jones-Drew	
KR <b>32 JONES-DREW</b>	86 Northcutt	34 Pearman	36 Wimbush
LS <b>88 ZELENIKA</b>	46 Estandia		

\* Rookie

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Tennessee	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	Atlanta	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Denver	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 30	BYE	
Oct. 7	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	Houston	1 p.m.
Oct. 22	Indianapolis	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 28	at Tampa Bay	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 4	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	San Diego	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	Buffalo	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	Carolina	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	at Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	Oakland	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Houston	1 p.m.

**2006 RESULTS**

Pointspread refers to Jacksonville

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Dallas	(+1.5)	24-17
Sept. 18	Pittsburgh	(+2.5)	9-0
Sept. 24	At Indianapolis	(+6.5)	14-21
Oct. 1	At Washington	(-2.5)	30-36*
Oct. 8	New York Jets	(-7)	41-0
Oct. 15	BYE		
Oct. 22	At Houston	(-8)	7-27
Oct. 29	At Philadelphia	(+8)	13-6
Nov. 5	Tennessee	(-9.5)	37-7
Nov. 12	Houston	(-10)	10-13
Nov. 20	New York Giants	(-4)	26-10
Nov. 26	At Buffalo	(-3)	24-27
Dec. 3	At Miami	(0)	24-10
Dec. 10	Indianapolis	(+1)	44-17
Dec. 17	At Tennessee	(-3.5)	17-24
Dec. 24	New England	(-3)	21-24
Dec. 31	At Kansas City	(+2.5)	30-35

\* OVERTIME

**JAGUARS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
69	Barnes, Khalif	OT	6-5	325	3	Washington	15/15
	Broussard, John	WR	6-1	173	R	San Jose State	
	Carnahan, Andrew	OT	6-7	306	R	Arizona State	
25	Carroll, Ahmad	CB	5-10	190	4	Arkansas	1/0
76	Collier, Richard	OT	6-7	358	2	Valdosta State	5/0
61	Connolly, Dan	C	6-4	318	3	Southeast Missouri St.	0/0
58	Cordova, Jorge	LB	6-1	241	4	Nevada	13/0
21	Cousin, Terry	CB	5-9	185	11	South Carolina	10/4
20	Darius, Donovin	SS	6-1	225	10	Syracuse	10/10
	Durant, Justin	LB	6-1	235	R	Hampton	
46	Estandia, Greg	TE	6-8	240	1	UNLV	0/0
42	Fudge, Jamaal	S	5-9	196	2	Clemson	6/0
9	Garrard, David	QB	6-2	240	6	East Carolina	11/10
	Gattis, Josh	S	6-1	213	R	Wake Forest	
50	Gilbert, Tony	LB	6-1	244	5	Georgia	16/0
5	Gray, Quinn	QB	6-3	246	4	Florida A&M	2/0
55	Greisen, Nick	LB	6-1	245	6	Wisconsin	16/10
57	Hawkins, Brent	DE-LB	6-2	245	2	Illinois State	6/0
97	Hayward, Reggie	DE	6-5	285	7	Iowa State	1/1
98	Henderson, John	DT	6-7	325	6	Tennessee	16/16
51	Ingram, Clint	LB	6-2	245	2	Oklahoma	14/11
59	Iwuh, Brian	LB	6-0	235	2	Colorado	12/0
33	Jones, Greg	FB	6-1	255	4	Florida State	0/0
18	Jones, Matt	WR	6-6	238	3	Arkansas	14/4
32	Jones-Drew, Maurice	RB	5-7	212	2	UCLA	16/1
	Landri, Derek	DT	6-3	288	R	Notre Dame	
7	Leftwich, Byron	QB	6-5	242	5	Marshall	6/6
89	Lewis, Mercedes	TE	6-6	265	2	UCLA	15/3
67	Manuwai, Vince	OG	6-2	325	5	Hawaii	16/16
27	Mathis, Rashean	CB	6-1	200	5	Bethune-Cookman	16/16
47	McCadam, Kevin	S	6-1	215	6	Virginia Tech	16/0
93	McCray, Bobby	DE	6-6	261	4	Florida	15/12
96	McDaniel, Tony	DT	6-7	295	2	Tennessee	11/0
73	McDougle, Stockar	OT	6-6	348	8	Oklahoma	11/0
63	Meester, Brad	C	6-3	300	8	Northern Iowa	16/16
92	Meier, Rob	DE-DT	6-5	298	8	Washington State	16/8
94	Mincey, Jeremy	DE	6-3	260	1	Florida	0/0
65	Naeole, Chris	OG	6-3	330	11	Colorado	16/16
	Nelson, Reggie	FS	5-11	198	R	Florida	
	Nkang, Chad	LB	5-11	220	R	Elon	
62	Norman, Dennis	OG-C	6-5	323	6	Princeton	16/1
86	Northcutt, Dennis	WR	5-11	171	8	Arizona	13/6
	Nwaneri, Uche	OG	6-3	325	R	Purdue	
24	Owens, Montrell	RB	5-10	219	2	Maine	14/0
79	Pashos, Tony	OT	6-6	320	5	Illinois	16/16
34	Pearman, Alvin	RB	5-10	208	3	Virginia	13/0
54	Peterson, Mike	LB	6-1	235	9	Florida	5/5
56	Pettway, Kenny	LB	6-4	238	3	Grambling State	7/0
	Podlesh, Adam	P	5-11	202	R	Maryland	
38	Roberson, Chris	CB	5-11	185	2	Eastern Michigan	0/0
10	Scobee, Josh	PK	6-1	190	4	Louisiana Tech	16/0
43	Sensabaugh, Gerald	S	6-0	218	3	North Carolina	16/7
	Smith, Brian	DE-LB	6-4	239	R	Missouri	
52	Smith, Daryl	LB	6-2	244	4	Georgia Tech	16/16
41	Sorensen, Nick	S	6-3	210	7	Virginia Tech	12/0
95	Spicer, Paul	DE	6-4	296	8	Saginaw Valley State	16/16
31	Starks, Scott	CB	5-9	178	3	Wisconsin	16/1
99	Stroud, Marcus	DT	6-6	306	7	Georgia	11/11
28	Taylor, Fred	RB	6-1	226	10	Florida	15/15
53	Thomas, Pat	LB	6-2	246	2	North Carolina State	2/0
22	Toefield, LaBrandon	RB	5-11	232	5	Louisiana State	4/0
	Walker, Mike	WR	6-1	209	R	Central Florida	
23	Webb, Dee	CB	5-11	186	2	Florida	11/1
84	Wiggins, Jermaine	TE	6-2	250	8	Georgia	16/3
19	Wilford, Ernest	WR	6-4	223	4	Virginia Tech	16/12
29	Williams, Brian	CB	5-11	198	6	North Carolina State	15/15
74	Williams, Maurice	OT	6-5	315	7	Michigan	16/16
11	Williams, Reggie	WR	6-4	314	4	Washington	16/14
36	Wimbush, Derrick	FB	6-1	233	3	Fort Valley State	12/6
87	Wrightster, George	TE	6-3	257	5	Oregon	16/10
90	Wyche, James	DE	6-5	262	1	Syracuse	0/0
4	Yelk, Tony	P	6-1	205	1	Iowa State	0/0
88	Zelenka, Joe	LS-TE	6-3	265	9	Wake Forest	16/0



# TENNESSEE TITANS



LES BENTLEY

QB VINCE YOUNG

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **6-10** 3rd place /  
AFC South

The stakes are higher. Everything has been turned up a notch. Vince Young has that kind of effect on his teams.

Surely, the Titans' rebounding from two straight losing seasons to a very promising 8-8 season in 2006 isn't all about

Young, their new franchise QB, but he has changed the face of a once-proud franchise that has fallen on hard times.

With optimism,

though, comes a healthy dose of reality. The Pacman Jones drama reached its apex this offseason when he was sus-

pended for the entire '07 season by commissioner Roger Goodell. Jones is one more police visit from being cut by the team or banished permanently by the NFL.

The team also failed to make up much in terms of lost talent in free agency. Travis Henry walked. So did Drew Bennett. No top-flight receiver arrived. No new pass-rushing blood, either.

So it falls again on Young, head coach Jeff Fisher and a defense that allowed the most yards from scrimmage in the league to make major upgrades. Can it be done? It's hard to doubt Young, but he can't do it all.

## Offense

Coordinator Norm Chow earned a lot of praise last season for his work with Vince Young, being able to make his West Coast-influenced offense include elements of the college spread and even some read-option elements to best suit Young's unique skills. The running game re-emerged last season but faces some personnel questions this year with Travis Henry gone and no clear successor in place. And the receiving corps is hardly complete, as Young might not have a true go-to guy.

### QUARTERBACKS

▪ This much is clear: Vince Young has the "it" factor that can't be taught. Critics might point out his occasional lack of maturity, a low completion per-



centage and his inability to dissect defenses. But those who watched Young's magic know there's something special going on. He has the innate ability to will his team back, statistics be damned. In that sense, Young never will fashion Peyton Manning-like numbers or performances, but they share the ability to take over games. Young does it with a once-in-a-generation combination of size and athleticism and the guts to make big throws. His freelancing will get him into trouble at times, and he can force passes into tight spaces, but the ceiling for

Young's improvement is sky-high. Norm Chow found the right way to use Young, and their relationship as play-caller and QB only should grow this season. The team appreciated the work Kerry Collins did as Young's backup and mentor, even if Collins struggled badly in three starts. He has a strong arm and 148 career starts.

**RUNNING BACKS** • The Titans have some things to figure out here. Travis Henry, who ran for 1,211 yards in a bounce-back season, was allowed to walk after a contract dispute. Chris Brown, who fell out of favor with the staff, didn't re-sign. And LenDale White, considered the potential back of the future, must mature, become more accountable and get himself into better shape to take the role by the horns. White can move well for a bigger back and would appear to have the skills to fit this offense, but he's a subpar receiver and has little experience as a pass-blocker, so expect him to be more of a first- and second-down option. The team drafted second-rounder Chris Henry, a workout warrior who can pound it, but his measurables outweigh his production to this point. There's no question that

Jeff Fisher wants to maintain a hard-running identity for his team, so this is a position to watch closely. FB Ahmad Hall was a major revelation. He was terrific as a lead blocker and showed more versatility as a receiver than expected. He'll get an occasional carry or catch.

**RECEIVERS** • Brandon Jones is not your prototype No. 1 receiver, but he showed he was fully healed after ACL surgery in December '05. He has enough speed to run past defenders, can make a leaping grab and gain yards after the catch. However, he has a lean build and never has been a true go-to option, even at Oklahoma. Jones must refine his route running and be more precise. David Givens likely won't be ready to start the season. He's coming off his own ACL injury, plus a torn meniscus and a broken bone in his knee, which he suffered in November. When healthy, he is a tough, smart receiver who can set up defenders well. Though Givens lacks deep speed and has never been a dynamic playmaker, the Titans would love his services. Ex-Bear Justin Gage is on board and should compete as a top-three receiver. He has shown downfield ability despite not possessing great speed. Don't be shocked if Jonathan Orr or rookies Paul Williams and Chris Davis move ahead of disappointing WRs Roydell Williams and



#### CB CORTLAND FINNEGAN

Finnegan showed a knack for making big plays in the slot and will get a chance to earn a starting spot with Pacman's suspension.

#### POSITION BATTLE

##### MLB:

#### RYAN FOWLER vs. STEPHEN TULLOCH

The career special-teamer (Fowler) has the early edge over the poor man's London Fletcher (Tulloch) at this two-down position.

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS

##### KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS

LB Ryan Fowler, WR Justin Gage, CB Nick Harper, S Bryan Scott.

##### KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES

WR Drew Bennett, LB Colby Bockwoldt, RB Travis Henry, TE Erron Kinney, OG Zach Miller, DT Robaire Smith, WR Bobby Wade.

#### 2007 DRAFT PICKS

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Michael Griffin	S	Texas	19
2	Chris Henry	RB	Arizona	50
3	Paul Williams	WR	Fresno State	80
4	Leroy Harris	C	North Carolina St.	115
4	Chris Davis	WR	Florida State	128
5	Antonio Johnson	DT	Mississippi State	152
6	Joel Filani	WR	Texas Tech	188
6	Jacob Ford	DE	Central Arkansas	204
6	Ryan Smith	CB	Florida	206
7	Mike Otto	OG-OT	Purdue	223



Courtney Roby, who are running out of chances. Orr didn't play as a rookie but showed enough potential to keep the coaches intrigued. Paul Williams is tall and athletic but not polished or confident, and Davis is tough and quick. TE Bo Scaife, like Jones, might not look the part of a go-to pass-catcher, but he has gotten the job done — unlike disappointing Ben Troupe, who has yet to display the consistency or the play-making ability he was known for in college. Scaife and Vince Young have a relationship dating back to their time together at Texas, and the two have formed a good rapport in the pros. Troupe must stay healthy and show up in camp to make the team. Ben Hartsock is an athletic tight end who blocks fairly well and endeared himself after coming back from injury quickly.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • There is little question that the line was the glue for the team

and a key factor in rebounding from the 0-5 start. Among the nice surprises was the OT combo of Michael Roos and David Stewart. Roos handled the switch back to the left side, where he played in college, and showed good balance and lateral quickness. He cut way back on his sacks allowed (from 6½ as a rookie to three) and penalties (from 10 to five) and protected Vince Young's blind side well. Stewart fits in the Jon Runyan mold of mauler. He is tall, strong and plays with a mean streak. The coaches are excited about his potential. C Kevin Mawae proved to be an inspired free-agent addition, even if he only has a couple seasons left at age 36. His leadership was a huge factor on a young offense, but Mawae's movement skills allowed the team to use

him on pulls and traps, which opened up the playbook more. OLG Jacob Bell is not the strongest guard, but he is tough and versatile and will do whatever the staff asks of him.

ORG Benji Olson battled through injuries and might be replaceable, but he showed his toughness and strength in his ninth season. The depth is fine with Texans castoff Seth Wand and Daniel Loper at tackle; Eugene Amano, who can back up at guard and center; and fourth-rounder Leroy Harris, who many scouts really liked.

## Defense

Coordinator Jim Schwartz likes to bring pressure, but he has struggled to find the right DBs to handle his man-heavy coverage and take away the outsides. Ideally, he'd love to run man as a base coverage, bring an eighth man into the box to stop the run and blitz selectively from all angles. In reality, the Titans must play a mix of man and cover-2 — and the latter, for example, with the safeties playing deep, helped them hold the Colts to 14 and 17 points in two meetings. One thing is clear: the team needs to ramp up a pass rush that notched only 26 sacks, down from 41 the year before and the franchise's lowest mark since 1972.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • DLE Kyle Vanden Bosch, coming off a career season, was a marked man. He remained a high-effort rusher who was solid against the run, but the lack of help was a detriment. Teams often committed a back or tight end to helping slow him, knowing that the DRE spot wasn't going to generate much of a pass rush. Antwan Odom had a lost season with injuries, but he has made a few plays in the past and will get another crack. Travis LaBoy has some situational value, but he's too wiry to be a three-down end. Tony Brown, who has played inside and outside, actually flashed rush ability when he got a chance at end. Keep an eye on him at either spot. Inside, the team suffered from Albert Haynesworth's five-game suspension. He played well when he came back — at times he was inspired — but he remains a physical marvel who too often gets taken out of plays. He'd be best-suited to play alongside a high-motor, blue-collar tackle to allow him to get cleaner releases in the trash. DT Rien Long, despite coming off a torn Achilles tendon, should make a play for a



starting spot. He has done his best work as a pass rusher, but he showed improvements against the run. Randy Starks might have taken a step backward. Although he's only 23, entering his fourth season, Starks appears to have picked up some bad habits. He will flash great quickness one snap and disappear for quarters at a time. He needs to step up. Jesse Mahelona is a stout nose tackle who can be an active one-gapper, but he didn't show much as a rookie.

**LINEBACKERS** • Keith Bulluck had one of his better seasons in '06, unburdened from having to do everything himself. David Thornton might not have made a ton of big plays at the other OLB spot, but his presence allowed Bulluck to run free more often. Bulluck has great range, hits like a truck and can turn and run with backs and tight ends. Thornton made the defense faster, but he'll be counted on for more of an impact. He has good coverage skills and can blitz from time to time; he's just not a big hummer against the run. The team threw pretty decent money at Ryan Fowler, who was buried on Dallas' depth chart, to vie for the MLB job. His biggest contributions to date have come on special teams, but he offers good size and can track down ballcarriers. Although Fowler is best in straight lines and can't be asked to turn and run in coverage, the MLB spot is mostly a run-stopping position in this scheme. Stephen Tulloch had some nice moments as a rookie, and he has a place on the team.

perhaps as a short-yardage and goal-line specialist. The coaches expect him to battle with Fowler to start. The depth here could be better. Robert Reynolds is the best of the bench guys, but OLBs Terna Nande and Spencer Toone are athletic.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • Pacman Jones' suspension weakens this position considerably from a coverage standpoint. Jones was the team's best cover guy. Free-agent addition Dick Harper is a gamer and a solid zone corner. But is that what this team needs? Harper never will be the shut-down type, but he rarely gets exposed and can match up with decent-sized receivers despite his lack of height. He tends to struggle most when asked to play off receivers in man coverage. Reynaldo Hill is an overachiever who also does his best work in zones. He was less of a playmaker in his second season but might fit in best as a nickel corner. The most intriguing corner is Cortland Finnegan, who proved to be a major find last year in Round Seven. He found a niche as the nickelback and was an excellent blitzer and tackler despite lacking ideal size. He's tough, willing to learn and will vie for a starting spot outside, provided he can stand up to bigger receivers. And don't snooze on sixth-rounder Ryan Smith; the team has had great fortune later in the draft with Hill and Finnegan. CB Andre Woolfolk remains a forgotten man. SS Chris Hope was perhaps the team's defensive MVP last season. He came up to support the run, played excellent deep halves when asked and made a team-best

five interceptions. Hope got everyone lined up, did a good job of reading the quarterback's eyes and made up for FS Lamont Thompson's deficiencies. Thompson is a candidate to be replaced by either Vincent Fuller, Calvin Lowry, who looked good on special teams, or first-rounder Michael Griffin, who might line up at safety, boundary corner and nickel corner. Bryan Scott backs up at both safety spots.

## Special teams

Rob Bironas is not the most accurate kicker, but he hit a 60-yarder to beat the Colts and had three other game-winners. He tends to miss kicks to the right and put a few kickoffs out of bounds, but he has a knack for making clutch kicks. P Craig Hentrich remains a solid pro who can placekick if needed. Casey Cramer (two fumble recoveries, blocked punt) and Stephen Tulloch are two of the better teamers returning, and rookie Michael Griffin blocked eight kicks in college. Pacman Jones' suspension and Bobby Wade's departure diminish the return units.

## Summary

Fans and players expect to build on last season's success, when the team was a game short of making the playoffs. But Pacman Jones' suspension, questions on defense and a lack of proven playmakers on offense leave doubt about that progress. With Vince Young anything looks possible, but another slow start isn't out of the question.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
OPPONENT	WK 1 N.Y.	WK 2 @S.D.	WK 3 @MIA	WK 4 DAL	WK 5 @IND.	WK 6 @WASH.	WK 8 NOU	WK 9 @IAX	WK 10 RAI	WK 11 @PHI	WK 12 N.Y.G.	WK 13 IND	WK 14 @NOU	WK 15 IAX	WK 16 @BURE	WK 17 N.E.	TOTALS
Score	16-23	7-40	10-13	14-45	13-14	25-22	28-22	7-37	26-27	31-13	24-21	20-17	26-20	24-17	30-29	23-40	
Total net yards	328	218	316	229	277	344	197	262	367	293	343	382	418	98	396	342	4810
Rushing yards	86	55	62	78	214	193	111	108	162	209	108	219	218	41	215	135	2214
Passing yards	242	163	254	151	63	151	86	154	205	84	235	163	200	57	181	207	2596
Rushing plays	25	19	22	27	31	42	27	32	38	32	25	35	33	16	40	25	469
Sacks allowed	2	0	2	2	0	3	1	1	2	3	2	0	2	3	1	5	29
Had intercepted	3	2	2	2	1	0	0	3	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	19
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	7
Yards penalized	70	55	47	55	36	51	64	20	20	15	30	34	66	40	81	119	803
Punts	6	7	6	4	6	7	8	7	5	7	4	3	5	5	4	4	88
OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	34:02	38:35	35:29	32:34	33:55	24:20	36:21	30:11	29:16	36:22	33:37	30:55	27:26	44:22	26:42	29:43	32:44
Total net yards	393	476	289	396	320	305	427	342	421	390	287	451	240	396	368	414	5915
Rushing yards	91	241	159	217	154	125	148	173	50	123	144	100	107	193	117	171	2313
Passing yards	302	235	130	179	166	180	279	169	371	267	143	351	133	203	251	243	3602
Rushing plays	34	37	36	41	34	26	26	30	21	30	36	29	30	41	24	31	506
Sacks allowed	2	0	6	0	0	0	4	2	1	0	0	0	2	4	3	2	26
Had intercepted	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	2	1	2	2	0	3	2	0	17
Fumbles lost	2	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	11
Yards penalized	53	53	29	61	45	46	74	20	91	64	43	59	64	25	50	129	906
Punts	4	2	6	1	6	7	3	5	5	6	5	3	6	2	2	5	68
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
C. Brown	16-64-0	6-9-0		12-33-0		3-6-0		2-2-0		1-3-0		1-4-0	2-13-0	1-(-1)-0			41-156-0
Hall																	7-21-0
Henry	9-22-2		21-60-0		19-123-0	32-178-1	15-29-0	19-67-0	27-107-1	18-143-1	12-27-0	20-93-0	20-88-2	12-37-0	25-135-0	21-102-0	270-1211-7
White		8-22-0	1-2-0	9-39-0	8-48-0		7-35-0	7-25-0		8-17-0	1-1-0	4-35-0			6-16-0	2-4-0	61-244-0
Young		5-24-0		5-3-0	4-43-1	7-9-0	4-44-1	4-14-0	8-39-1	6-49-0	10-69-1	9-78-0	7-86-1	4-4-0	8-61-1	2-29-1	83-552-7
PASSING **																	
Collins	17-38-2	6-19-2	19-33-2														42-90-6
	223-0	57-0	269-1														549-1
Young	3-4-1	7-20-0		14-29-2	10-21-1	13-25-0	7-15-0	15-36-3	13-25-1	8-22-0	24-35-0	15-25-2	19-29-1	8-15-0	13-20-0	15-36-2	184-357-13
	27-0	105-1		155-1	63-0	161-1	87-1	163-1	211-0	101-1	249-2	163-2	218-0	65-0	183-2	227-0	2199-12
RECEIVING																	
Bennett	8-106-0	3-45-1	5-84-0	2-10-0		3-60-0	1-23-0	3-51-1	6-115-0	1-0-0	3-35-0	1-20-1	6-113-0			4-75-0	46-737-3
Givens	3-27-0	2-27-0	2-47-0	1-3-0													8-104-0
Hall					1-4-0	1-2-0			1-9-0	1-28-0	2-15-0	3-20-0	3-29-0		2-28-0	1-3-0	15-138-0
Hartsock												1-16-0			2-15-0	2-28-0	6-68-0
Henry	1-2-0		2-10-0		2-10-0	2-3-0				1-8-0	3-24-0	3-9-0	2-7-0	1-2-0		1-3-0	18-78-0
B. Jones		2-18-0		2-18-0	3-40-0	3-34-1		1-8-0	1-10-0	2-22-0	4-38-1	1-9-1	2-33-0		5-101-1	1-53-0	27-384-4
Scafe	1-12-0	3-53-0	3-53-1	3-40-0		1-6-0	2-15-0	5-70-0	2-48-0		5-34-1	2-31-0	2-8-0				29-370-2
Troupe	1-23-0		2-41-0	3-39-1	1-2-0		1-12-0	3-16-0	1-3-0	1-14-1							13-150-2
Wade	5-76-0		2-17-0	3-45-0		2-36-0	2-30-1		1-18-0	1-18-0	6-83-0	1-18-0	2-17-0	3-48-0	1-22-1	4-33-0	33-461-2
White		1-3-0	1-2-0		3-7-0			2-1-0	1-8-0	1-11-0		1-2-0		1-9-0	3-17-0		14-60-0
Williams		1-17-0	1-9-0			1-20-0		1-17-0			1-20-0			1-6-0		2-32-0	8-121-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.



## Tennessee Titans

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615/565-4000

Official Website: [www.titansonline.com](http://www.titansonline.com)

Stadium: LP Field

Capacity: 69,149

Playing surface: Grass

2006 record: 8-8; Second in AFC South



Jeff Fisher

Founder/owner/chairman of the board/president and CEO: K.S. "Bud" Adams Jr.; Owner/vic chairman of the board: Nancy N. Adams; Senior executive vice president/COO: Steve Underwood; Executive vice president/general manager: Mike Reinfeldt; Director of player personnel: Rich Sneed; Director of college scouting: Mike Ackerley.

Executive vice president/head coach: Jeff Fisher

Assistant coaches: Matt Burke, defensive assistant; Chuck Cecil, safeties and nickelbacks; Norm Chow, offensive coordinator; Marty Galbraith, asst. special teams; Fred Graves, wide receivers; Craig Johnson, quarterbacks; Alan Lowry, special teams; Dave McGinnis, asst. head coach/linebackers; Mike Munchak, offensive line; Jim Schwartz, defensive coordinator; Sherman Smith, asst. head coach/running backs; Jim Washburn, defensive line; Steve Watterson, strength and conditioning; John Zernight, tight ends.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
WR	12 GAGE	87 Givens	82 Roby	11 P. Williams*
OLT	71 ROOS	70 Loper		
OLG	60 BELL	73 Geisinger		
C	68 MAWAE	64 L. Harris*	54 Amano	
ORG	75 OLSON	54 Amano		
ORT	76 STEWART	72 Wand		
TE	80 SCAIFE	84 Troupe	47 Hartsock	48 Cramer
WR	81 JONES	85 Orr	17 C. Davis*	86 R. Williams
QB	10 YOUNG	5 Collins	14 K. Smith	7 Koral
RB	25 WHITE	29 Henry*	35 Ganther	39 Moore
FB	45 HALL			
DEFENSE				
DLE	93 VANDEN BOSCH	95 Savage	77 Conover	
DLT	90 STARKS	99 Long	96 A. Johnson*	
DRT	92 HAYNESWORTH	94 Mahelona	97 Brown	
DRE	91 LABOY	98 Odom	97 Brown	78 Ford*
LOLB	50 THORNTON	57 Nande		
MLB	59 FOWLER	55 Tulloch	51 Reynolds	
ROLB	53 BULLUCK	56 Toone		
LCB	20 HARPER	26 Woolfolk	30 King	
RCB	21 HILL	31 Finnegan	36 Waddell	41 R. Smith*
FS	27 GRIFFIN*	22 Fuller	28 Thompson	38 Scott
SS	24 HOPE	37 Lowry	23 Nickey	38 Scott
SPECIALISTS				
P	15 HENTRICH			
PK	2 BIRONAS			
H	15 HENTRICH			
PR	31 FINNEGAN	17 C. Davis*	37 Lowry	
KR	82 ROBY	29 Henry*		
LS	58 AMATO			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Sept. 24	at New Orleans	8:30 p.m.
Sept. 30	BYE	
Oct. 7	Atlanta	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Houston	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	Oakland	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	Carolina	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Nov. 19	at Denver	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	Houston	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	San Diego	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	N.Y. Jets	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Indianapolis	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Tennessee

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	New York Jets	(-3)	16-23
Sept. 17	at San Diego	(+11)	7-40
Sept. 24	at Miami	(+10.5)	10-13
Oct. 1	Dallas	(+10)	14-45
Oct. 8	at Indianapolis	(+17)	13-14
Oct. 15	at Washington	(+12.5)	25-22
Oct. 22	BYE		
Oct. 29	Houston	(-3)	28-22
Nov. 5	at Jacksonville	(+9.5)	7-37
Nov. 12	Baltimore	(+7)	26-27
Nov. 19	at Philadelphia	(+13)	31-13
Nov. 26	New York Giants	(+4)	24-21
Dec. 3	Indianapolis	(+7.5)	20-17
Dec. 10	at Houston	(+1)	26-20*
Dec. 17	Jacksonville	(+3.5)	24-17
Dec. 24	at Buffalo	(+5.5)	30-29
Dec. 31	New England	(-3.5)	23-40

\* OVERTIME

## TITANS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/TS
	Adibi, Nathaniel	DE	6-3	249	1	Virginia Tech	0/0
	Allred, Colin	LB	6-1	238	1	Baylor	0/0
54	Amano, Eugene	C-OG	6-3	310	4	SE Missouri State	16/1
58	Amato, Ken	LB-LS	6-2	245	6	Montana State	15/0
60	Bell, Jacob	OG-OT	6-4	295	4	Miami (Ohio)	15/15
2	Bironas, Rob	PK	6-0	205	3	Georgia Southern	16/0
97	Brown, Tony	DT-DE	6-3	285	4	Memphis	12/2
53	Bulluck, Keith	LB	6-3	235	9	Syracuse	16/16
5	Collins, Kerry	QB	6-5	245	13	Penn State	4/3
77	Conover, Sean	DE	6-5	262	2	Bucknell	6/2
48	Cramer, Casey	TE	6-2	250	4	Dartmouth	15/0
17	Davis, Chris	WR	5-10	181	R	Florida State	
62	Douglas, Cody	OG	6-4	312	1	Tennessee	0/0
13	Ealy, Biren	WR	6-3	207	R	Houston	
16	Filani, Joel	WR	6-2	216	R	Texas Tech	
31	Finnegan, Cortland	CB	5-10	188	2	Samford	16/2
78	Ford, Jacob	DE	6-4	249	R	Central Arkansas	
59	Fowler, Ryan	LB	6-3	250	4	Duke	16/0
22	Fuller, Vincent	S	6-1	190	3	Virginia Tech	16/0
12	Gage, Justin	WR	6-4	212	5	Missouri	8/0
35	Ganther, Quinton	RB	5-9	214	2	Utah	2/0
73	Geisinger, Justin	C-OG	6-3	322	2	Vanderbilt	2/0
87	Givens, David	WR	6-0	215	7	Notre Dame	5/5
27	Griffin, Michael	S	6-0	195	R	Texas	
45	Hall, Ahmad	FB	5-10	242	2	Texas	14/7
20	Harper, Nick	CB	5-10	182	7	Fort Valley State	15/15
62	Harris, Charles	OT	6-5	326	R	Washington State	
64	Harris, Leroy	C	6-2	298	R	North Carolina State	
47	Hartsock, Ben	TE	6-4	255	4	Ohio State	6/3
92	Haynesworth, Albert	DT	6-6	320	6	Tennessee	11/10
69	Haywood, Adrian	DT	6-2	300	R	SMU	
29	Henry, Chris	RB	6-0	228	R	Arizona	
15	Hentrich, Craig	P-PK	6-3	213	13	Notre Dame	16/0
21	Hill, Reynaldo	CB	5-11	185	3	Florida	15/14
24	Hope, Chris	S	5-11	206	6	Florida State	16/16
96	Johnson, Antonio	DT	6-3	305	R	Mississippi State	
81	Jones, Brandon	WR	6-1	212	3	Oklahoma	16/10
32	Jones, Pacman	CB	5-10	185	3	West Virginia	15/15
33	Keys, Erik	CB	5-10	185	R	Ball State	
30	King, Eric	CB	5-10	185	3	Wake Forest	11/0
7	Koral, David	QB	6-2	212	1	UCLA	0/0
91	LaBoy, Travis	DE	6-3	260	3	Hawaii	13/11
99	Long, Flen	DT	6-6	300	5	Washington State	0/0
70	Loper, Daniel	OT	6-6	320	3	Texas Tech	8/0
37	Lowry, Calvin	S	5-11	200	2	Penn State	16/0
40	Luke, Nic	FB	6-1	220	R	Alabama A&M	
94	Mahelona, Jesse	DT	6-0	311	2	Tennessee	10/1
68	Mawae, Kevin	C	6-4	289	13	LSU	16/16
61	McElveen, Jermaine	DE	6-4	263	R	Alabama-Birmingham	
39	Moore, Dontrell	RB	5-9	208	1	New Mexico	0/0
57	Nande, Terna	LB	6-0	230	2	Miami (Ohio)	1/0
23	Nickey, Donnie	S	6-3	210	4	Ohio State	16/0
98	Odom, Antwan	DE	6-5	274	4	Alabama	4/2
75	Olson, Benji	G	6-4	320	9	Washington	15/15
85	Orr, Jonathan	WR	6-1	193	2	Wisconsin	0/0
66	Otto, Michael	OT	6-5	308	R	Purdue	
	Pakulak, Glenn	P	6-3	220	1	Kentucky	0/0
46	Petrowski, Jamie	TE	6-4	250	1	Indiana State	0/0
44	Pullum, Barron	LB	6-3	225	R	Mississippi Valley St.	
51	Reynolds, Robert	LB	6-3	247	4	Ohio State	4/0
82	Roby, Courtney	WR	6-0	189	3	Indiana	12/0
71	Roos, Michael	OT	6-7	315	2	Eastern Washington	16/16
18	Ross, Richie	WR	6-4	208	1	Nebraska-Kearney	0/0
95	Savage, Josh	DE	6-4	276	2	Utah	5/0
80	Scaife, Bo	TE	6-3	249	3	Texas	14/12
38	Scott, Bryan	S	6-1	219	5	Penn State	9/0
39	Sharp, Brandon	S	5-10	195	R	Louisville	
14	Smith, Kent	QB	6-5	215	1	Central Michigan	0/0
41	Smith, Ryan	CB	5-10	168	R	Florida	
67	Snell, Isaac	G	6-6	288	1	North Dakota State	0/0
19	Solomon, Clinton	WR	6-3	214	1	Iowa	0/0
90	Starks, Randy	DT	6-3	312	4	Maryland	16/8
76	Stewart, David	OT	6-7	318	2	Mississippi State	14/14
47	Stratton, Brock	LB	5-11	231	R	Texas Tech	
28	Thompson, Lamont	S	6-1	215	6	Washington State	16/16
50	Thornton, David	LB	6-2	225	6	North Carolina	16/13
49	Toone, Spencer	LB	6-2	240	2	Utah	3/0
84	Troupe, Ben	TE	6-4	270	4	Florida	10/9
55	Tulloch, Stephen	LB	5-11	235	2	North Carolina State	16/3
93	Vanden Bosch, Kyle	DE	6-4	278	6	Nebraska	16/16
3	Vaughn, John	PK	6-0	210	R	Arizona	
36	Waddell, Michael	CB	5-10	180	4	North Carolina	0/0
89	Wallace, Cooper	TE	6-3	258	1	Auburn	0/0
72	Wand, Seth	OT	6-7	327	4	NW Missouri State	7/0
4	Ware, Danny	RB	6-0	225	R	Georgia	
25	White, LenDale	RB	6-1	235	2	USC	13/0
79	White, Marcus	DT	6-5	303	1	Murray State	0/0
11	Williams, Paul	WR	6-1	209	R	Fresno State	
86	Williams, Roydell	WR	6-0	187	3	Tulane	14/0
49	Woods, LeVar	LB	6-2	241	7	Iowa	7/0
26	Woolfolk, Andre	CB	6-2	197	5	Oklahoma	10/1
10	Young, Vince	QB	6-5	233	2	Texas	15/13



# HOUSTON TEXANS



LES BENTLEY

WR ANDRE JOHNSON

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **5-11** 4th place /  
AFC South

**A**re the Texans any closer to competing in Year Six than in Year One? Such is the question that lingers around this franchise entering the 2007 campaign.

Indeed, the Texans remain very much a work in progress.

The offense has a new leader in QB Matt Schaub, who has played well every time he has

had a chance. Having

thrown only 161 career regular-season passes, however, he is a projection.

Schaub didn't come cheap. The Texans traded down two spots to No. 10 in April's draft and surrendered their 2007 and '08 second-round picks for the ex-Falcons backup. One day after trading for Schaub, the Texans released David Carr, the starting quarterback in Houston's first five seasons.

Was Carr a scapegoat, or did he simply deserve to lose his job? That's another hot-button topic. To be fair, Carr took a beating from opposing pass rushers throughout his career. With the exception of WR Andre Johnson, Carr usually had below-average skill-position

talent surrounding him.

The Texans are banking that a change at the team's most important position is just what they need to be competitive in the AFC South. They also signed ex-Packers RB Ahman Green after lacking a consistent producer at that position for much of last season. Also, the defense picked up its play in the second half of the '06 season.

Whether it's enough to be a factor in a tough division remains to be seen.

## Offense

The Texans finished 28th in total offense





in 2006. They were not dynamic in any phase of the game, but head coach Gary Kubiak tailored the offense to his personnel as well as he could. The Texans emphasized the short-passing game, and they completed a whopping 329-of-481 passes. The 68.4 percent completion rate was the league's highest. The running game was plodding but determined, especially toward the end of the season.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ The addition of QB Matt Schaub gives head coach Gary Kubiak a passer he can work with for many seasons to come and a new leader for the offense. Kubiak did not have complete confidence in David Carr, and he took a conservative play-calling approach in his first season. Look for Kubiak to open up the playbook a little more this season with the 6-5, 237-pound Schaub, regarded as one of the NFL's top passing prospects, at the helm. Schaub is smart and strong-armed, and he flashed enough skill in limited work the past three seasons to convince the Texans to make him their quarterback of the future. Schaub's intangibles cannot be overlooked, either; the Texans believe he'll be an excellent leader. The risk in trading for Schaub, of course, is that he has started all of two NFL games. But with three years of professional experience, the Texans are anticipating a short learning curve. Sage Rosenfels will back up Schaub. Rosenfels doesn't have a strong arm, but he was very accurate in his first season in Houston and provides insurance. If Schaub has an awful game, don't be surprised if Kubiak turns to Rosenfels to mop up and teach the young quarterback a lesson. If the Texans keep three quarterbacks, Bradlee Van Pelt and Quinton Porter will compete for that roster spot.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Former Packers RB Ahman Green is the established, playmaking veteran runner the Texans were missing a season ago. Green, 30, has lost a little speed and quickness in recent years, and he has played only 19 games the past two seasons. However, he is a far better option than any other back on the roster. He should fit in nicely with the Texans' one-cut, stretch-zone running system. Green received 19 carries per game last season; that's about what he can handle at this stage of his career. Used properly, Green can make a major impact on the Texans' offense. Kubiak spent the first three months of the season looking for a starting running back before settling on Ron Dayne, who will now be Green's primary backup. Dayne is one of the slowest tailbacks in the game, but in December he ran hard, gradually wore down defenses and looked, at times, like a back you could win with. But injuries and conditioning have always slowed Dayne, and he is best-suited in a low-pressure, part-time role. Wali Lundy, Samkon Gado and Chris Taylor will compete to make the club. Lundy could not hold the starting job in '06. Gado must better secure the ball. Taylor got some playing time late in the season

## PFW PROJECTIONS



### BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER

DE **MARIO WILLIAMS**

Slowed by foot problems as a rookie, Williams will be expected to pick up his play in Year Two.

### POSITION BATTLE

OLT:

**EPHRAIM SALAAM vs. JORDAN BLACK**

With young Charles Spencer's status in question because of a knee injury, Salaam and Black are the top options to protect Matt Schaub's blind side.

### COMINGS AND GOINGS KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS

LB Shawn Barber, OT Jordan Black, LB Danny Clark, CB Jamar Fletcher, RB Ahman Green, QB Matt Schaub, DT Jeff Zgonina.

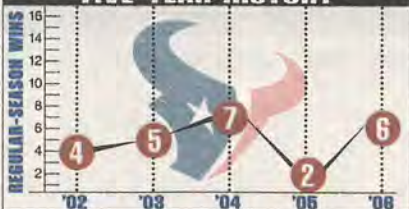
### KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES

QB David Carr, WR Eric Moulds, DT Seth Payne, DE Antwan Peek, CB Lewis Sanders, OT Zach Wiegert, RB Domanick Williams.

### 2007 DRAFT PICKS

RD.	PLAYER	POS.	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Amobi Okoye	DT	Louisville	10
3	Jacoby Jones	WR	Lane Coll. (Tenn.)	73
4	Fred Bennett	CB	South Carolina	123
5	Brandon Harrison	SS	Stanford	144
5	Brandon Frye	OT	Virginia Tech	163
6	Kasey Studdard	OG	Texas	183
7	Zach Diles	ILB	Kansas State	218

### FIVE-YEAR HISTORY



and fared well, and he might rate an edge over the others. The starting fullback is Vonta Leach, who is single-minded in his mission to seek and destroy opposing would-be-tacklers.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Andre Johnson was Houston's most valuable offensive player a season ago, catching 103 passes for 1,147 yards and five touchdowns. Johnson was regularly double-teamed, as the Texans did not have a receiver who could consistently put pressure on opposing defenses. The 6-3, 222-pounder is a tough matchup for most cornerbacks. Johnson can get separation with his speed, strength and frame. He runs well after the catch. His concentration wanes at times, as evidenced by his 11 drops a season ago. The Texans released Eric Moulds, leaving Kevin Walter and Jerome Mathis as the most likely options to compete for the other starting job. Walter has more experience than Mathis, but Mathis, while

unpolished, has blazing speed. Walter might hold an edge on the job entering training camp, but Mathis could close the gap quickly. Rookie Jacoby Jones, a third-round pick, could vie for immediate playing time if he plays as well as he did in a pair of college all-star games, but he has small hands and must improve as a route-runner. David Anderson is another option at wide receiver. TE Owen Daniels earned a starting role as a rookie and fared well. He is athletic and has a lot of upside.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ This unit's problems have been well-documented, but the talent level has improved, and the Texans might be another season or two away from the offensive line being a team strength. However, the team still needs to find a left tackle. Charles Spencer was poised to take the job, but he suffered a serious knee injury last September and may not be ready for the start of the season. Veterans Ephraim Salaam and Jordan Black will compete for the starting OLT job if Spencer is out of the picture. Salaam is serviceable, but he has trouble with speed off the edge. So does Black, who allowed 13 sacks last season and could not keep his cleats in the ground. Scouts would like Black to play with more toughness and be stronger at the point of attack. OLG Chester Pitts is strong and athletic and looked more natural at guard than he did previously at tackle.

Mike Flanagan is likely to start at center, but he's starting to wear down physically. He missed seven games last season and hasn't played a full season since 2003. ORG Fred Weary has finally developed into a starting-caliber player and is a good run blocker. ORT Eric Winston got thrown into action as a rookie and struggled at times. Winston has short arms for a tackle and might be best-suited inside at guard. Steve McKinney can provide depth at guard and center, and Drew Hodgdon is another option at center.

## Defense

The Texans' defense was truly awful in the opening month of the season, as opponents moved the ball at will through the air and outscored Houston by a 2-to-1 margin. But the defense clamped down in the final 14 weeks, and was the league's 10th-best "D" over that span. This group is very much a work in progress, but it's one that buys into defensive coordinator Richard Smith's scheme and has four building blocks in MLB DeMeco Ryans, DE Mario Williams, CB Dunta Robinson and rookie DT Amobi Okoye.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ All eyes are on DE Mario Williams, who did not live up to lofty expectations as rookie. There were moments where Williams looked like the prospect whom scouts compared to Reggie White before the '06 draft, but there were far too many stretches where Williams failed to menace. However, Williams was battling plantar fasciitis in his right foot, and he gutted it out for 16 games. If healthy,



evaluators believe Williams is on the cusp of a breakout season. The other starting defensive end, Anthony Weaver, is strong at the point of attack but not a threat to get to the quarterback very often. He will slide inside on passing downs. If Williams returns to form, the Texans could be tough to run against. Jason Babin and N.D. Kalu provide depth at defensive end. The Texans could go a variety of ways at defensive tackle. First-round pick Amobi Okoye is quick and powerful and could be tough to keep off the field if he plays to his considerable potential. But Okoye is only 20, and he may need some time to adjust to the professional game. Okoye's weight and effort are concerns. Travis Johnson, a 2005 first-round pick, has been a disappointment to date. He just hasn't been consistent enough. A player with some promise is Anthony Mad-dox, who can be disruptive and really started to play well down the stretch. DT Thomas Johnson has also started to come on. Veteran Jeff Zgonina is also in the mix.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ The Texans have a defensive leader in MLB DeMeco Ryans, who became a starter in training camp and never looked back. Ryans is smart, instinctive and athletic. He makes plays sideline-to-sideline. At points in his rookie season, he was an unguided missile, but he rapidly improved as the season progressed, and the Texans rarely took him out of the lineup. Scouts say Ryans was a rare rookie in that

he defended the pass as well as he played the run. While Ryans is the standout of this group, SLB Shantee Orr and WLB Morlon Greenwood also fared well in the change to the 4-3. Greenwood is quick and could move to the middle if Ryans left the lineup, but his best position is on the weak side. He is best playing in space. Veteran Danny Clark, signed to provide depth, also could start in a pinch. Shawn Barber, Charlie Anderson and Kailee Wong are other options at outside linebacker.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ CB Dunta Robinson is one of the AFC's better cornerbacks, but he's not quite a blue-chip player just yet. Robinson has the physical tools to be a Pro Bowl player. He is fast. He changes direction well. He is physical. However, the game-in, game-out consistency isn't quite there, and he gets beat too often for a player with his talent. Nevertheless, Robinson is durable and only 25, and he should be entering the prime of his career. Demarcus Faggins will likely be the other starter at cornerback, but he's better as a No. 3 or No. 4 corner. Faggins is small, feisty and smart, and he can hold his own vs. some receivers, but he has a world of trouble against receivers with deep speed, as he showed last year vs. Buffalo's Lee Evans. Dexter McCleon, Von Hutchins and Dexter Wynn are veteran reserves at cornerback. Fourth-rounder Fred Bennett is an intriguing size-speed prospect who is solid in man

coverage, but he must be stronger in run support. The Texans really need a play-making safety; neither SS Glenn Earl nor FS C.C. Brown fits that mold. Jason Simmons, so valuable to the Texans' special-teams efforts, provides depth at safety. Rookie Brandon Harrison is also in the mix.

## Special teams

PK Kris Brown hit 19-of-25 field goals last season. No one doubts his leg strength, but he is on the inconsistent side. Brown's kickoffs are deep and usually well-covered by Joe Marciano's coverage units. P Chad Stanley's net average of 36.7 yards tied for ninth in the AFC, and there's some sentiment that the team could look to challenge or replace him if he doesn't pick up his play. When healthy, Jerome Mathis is a dangerous kickoff returner who boasts sprinter's speed. Dexter Wynn or Mathis will likely return punts. Rookie Jacoby Jones can also help out in the return game.

## Summary

The Texans are unlikely to contend for a playoff spot this season, but the future is looking brighter for Gary Kubiak's club. Houston swept Jacksonville last season and also beat Indianapolis for the first time in its history. To have a chance at being a surprise team in '07, the Texans must be competitive vs. their divisional foes. And to do that, Schaub needs to be as good as advertised, and the defense needs to build off of last season.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	PHIL.	@IND.	WASH.	MIA.	@DAL.	JAX.	@TEN.	@N.Y.C.	@JAX.	BUFE.	@N.Y.J.	@OAK.	TEN.	@N.E.	IND.	CLEV.	
Score	10-24	24-43	15-31	17-15	6-34	27-7	22-28	10-14	13-10	21-24	11-26	23-14	20-26	7-40	27-24	14-6	
Total net yards	241	299	261	276	232	349	427	251	306	394	334	124	240	198	354	179	4465
Rushing yards	70	108	61	65	34	131	148	81	148	188	25	129	107	105	191	96	1687
Passing yards	171	191	200	211	198	218	279	170	158	206	309	-5	133	93	163	83	2778
Rushing plays	20	23	18	33	17	34	26	26	42	28	14	32	30	22	42	26	431
Sacks allowed	5	4	1	5	0	1	4	1	3	3	4	5	2	4	0	1	43
Had intercepted	0	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	1	13
Fumbles lost	0	2	1	1	1	0	3	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	12
Yards penalized	20	58	57	15	55	17	74	65	51	40	77	46	64	66	25	31	761
Punts	5	4	4	4	6	5	3	3	5	6	5	5	6	7	2	6	76
OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	32:51	34:56	38:27	26:05	35:14	26:30	23:39	31:05	22:27	27:35	29:09	33:32	32:34	35:53	24:01	38:06	30:45
Total net yards	441	515	495	289	354	220	197	285	322	403	304	302	418	230	319	306	5400
Rushing yards	130	125	234	70	170	102	111	122	118	70	27	113	218	105	114	127	1956
Passing yards	311	390	261	219	184	118	86	163	204	333	277	189	200	125	205	179	3444
Rushing plays	30	35	41	14	37	25	27	28	19	21	26	26	33	38	18	28	446
Sacks allowed	1	2	0	5	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	5	2	1	0	1	28
Had intercepted	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1	0	2	1	0	0	11
Fumbles lost	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	1	2	11
Yards penalized	51	60	126	35	73	35	64	53	65	17	5	60	66	10	15	57	792
Punts	3	1	2	5	4	7	8	3	4	7	4	4	5	4	1	3	65
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Carr	4-25-0	3-10-0	3-3-0	4-(-8)-1	3-15-0	4-12-0	1-6-0	5-24-1	5-48-0	5-31-0	2-10-0	3-5-0	4-6-0		2-14-0	5-(-6)-0	53-195-2
Dayne		11-37-0	14-58-0	22-58-0	10-14-0		5-16-0					18-95-0	21-87-2	18-94-1	32-153-2		151-612-5
Gado		3-36-0	1-0-0	6-9-0	4-5-0	10-27-0			17-67-0	10-69-1	3-4-0						54-217-1
Lundy	11-32-0	6-25-0				19-93-1	18-116-0	20-43-0	16-34-1	8-61-1	8-11-0	9-33-1	5-14-0	3-11-0		1-3-0	124-476-4
Taylor															8-24-0	20-99-1	28-123-1
PASSING **																	
Carr	18-27-0	22-26-0	19-29-1	22-29-1	15-27-2	25-34-0	15-21-1	21-30-0	16-32-0	25-30-1	39-54-1	7-14-0	17-23-0	16-28-4	16-23-0	9-15-1	302-442-12
Rosenfels	208-1	219-3	208-2	230-1	128-0	224-2	113-0	176-0	167-0	223-0	323-1	32-0	140-0	127-0	163-1	86-0	2767-11
					8-11-0	70-0	18-25-1	176-0	1-3-0								27-39-1
							186-3		9-0								265-3
RECEIVING																	
Bruener		1-1-1	1-2-1		1-5-0		1-9-0		1-3-0					1-6-0	2-26-0	1-10-0	9-62-2
Cook	1-0-0	5-34-0		1-6-0		3-24-0	3-20-0	1-3-0	2-10-0	2-10-0							18-107-0
Daniels		4-45-1	1-2-1		2-17-0	2-20-1	9-99-2	3-34-0	4-55-0	1-10-0	5-36-0		2-25-0	1-9-0			34-352-5
Dayne			1-13-0	3-11-0	1-4-0		2-17-0	1-5-0				1-5-0	3-12-0	1-7-0	1-3-0		14-77-0
Gado		1-3-0		1-4-0	4-26-0	3-15-0			1-6-0	5-30-0	1-(-4)-0						16-80-0
A. Johnson	6-101-0	4-56-1	11-152-0	9-101-1	9-75-0	8-106-1	9-78-1	9-83-0	3-56-0	6-76-0	10-98-1	1-9-0	7-68-0	5-28-0	4-48-0	2-12-0	103-1147-5
Leach													1-10-0		3-18-1	2-33-0	6-61-1
Lundy	2-(-1)-0					4-15-0	5-33-0	3-16-0	1-9-0	4-22-0	8-68-0	2-9-0	1-7-0	2-18-0		1-8-0	33-204-0
Moulds	6-68-1	4-59-0	4-27-0	4-76-0	4-44-0	3-16-0	3-35-0	3-24-0	3-14-0	5-68-0	10-79-0	1-3-0	1-7-0	4-26-0		2-11-0	57-557-1
Putzier	1-26-0	1-10-0	1-12-0		1-12-0				1-10-0			2-19-0	2-6-0	2-11-0		2-19-0	13-125-0
Walter	1-8-0	1-4-0		3-25-0	1-15-0	2-28-0		1-11-0	2-16-0	1-4-0	2-22-0			1-6-0	2-21-0		17-160-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Houston Texans

Two Reliant Park  
Houston, TX 77054  
832/667-2000  
Official Website: www.houstontexans.com  
Stadium: Reliant Stadium  
Capacity: 71,054  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 6-10; Fourth in AFC South

Gary Kubiak

Chairman and CEO: Robert C. McNair; General manager: Rick Smith; Director of college scouting: Dale Strahm

Head coach: Gary Kubiak

Assistant coaches: Martin Bayless, *asst. defensive backs*; Tim Bender, *offensive assistant*; John Benton, *offensive line*; Frank Bush, *senior defensive assistant*; Virgil Campbell, *strength and conditioning asst.*; Perry Carter, *defensive assistant*; Everett Coleman, *strength and conditioning asst.*; Jethro Franklin, *defensive line*; Chick Harris, *running backs*; Richard Hightower, *defensive assistant*; Jon Hoke, *defensive backs*; Johnny Holland, *linebackers*; Larry Kirksey, *wide receivers*; Joe Marciano, *special-teams coordinator*; Mike McDaniel, *offensive assistant*; Brian Pariani, *tight ends*; Frank Pollack, *asst. offensive line*; Dan Riley, *strength and conditioning*; Robert Saleh, *defensive assistant*; Kyle Shanahan, *quarterbacks*; Mike Sherman, *asst. head coach/offensive coordinator*; Richard Smith, *defensive coordinator*; Ray Wright, *asst. strength and conditioning*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

WR	80 A. JOHNSON	12 Jones*	89 D. Anderson	86 H. Williams
OLT	72 BLACK	74 Salaam	77 Spencer	
OLG	69 PITTS	62 Jackson	64 Studdard*	65 Brisiel
C	58 FLANAGAN	76 McKinney	57 Hodgdon	63 White
ORG	70 WEARY	76 McKinney	71 Herrion	75 Frye*
ORT	73 WINSTON	74 Salaam	75 Frye*	
TE	81 DANIELS	87 Bruener	88 Putzier	82 Steele
WR	83 WALTER	13 Mathis	19 Adams	11 Davis
QB	8 SCHAUB	18 Rosenfels	10 Van Pelt	5 Porter
RB	30 GREEN	36 Dayne	33 Lundy	27 Taylor
FB	44 LEACH	43 Cook		

## DEFENSE

DLE	98 WEAVER	94 Kalu	60 Cochran	
DLT	91 OKOYE*	96 Th. Johnson	99 Tr. Johnson	97 Malone
NT	95 MADDOX	92 Zgonina		
DRE	90 M. WILLIAMS	93 Babin		
SLB	53 ORR	50 C. Anderson	55 Clark	51 Barber
MLB	59 RYANS	54 Diles*		
WLB	56 GREENWOOD	52 Wong	51 Barber	
LCB	23 ROBINSON	34 Hutchins	28 McKenzie	29 Horton
RCB	38 FAGGINS	20 McCleon	25 Wynn	32 Bennett*
SS	26 EARL	31 Harrison*	42 Stone	28 Alexander
FS	24 C. BROWN	22 Simmons	40 Walker	

## SPECIALISTS

P	7 STANLEY			
PK	3 K. BROWN			
H	7 STANLEY	18 Rosenfels		
PR	25 WYNN	13 Mathis	12 Jones*	89 D. Anderson
KR	13 MATHIS	25 Wynn	12 Jones*	33 Lundy
LS	48 PITTMAN			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Kansas City	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Atlanta	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	Miami	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	Tennessee	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	at San Diego	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Oakland	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 11	BYE	
Nov. 18	New Orleans	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Cleveland	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 13	Denver	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	Jacksonville	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Houston

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Philadelphia	(+6)	10-24
Sept. 17	at Indianapolis	(+12)	24-43
Sept. 24	Washington	(+3.5)	15-31
Oct. 1	Miami	(+3.5)	17-15
Oct. 8	BYE		
Oct. 15	at Dallas	(+13)	6-34
Oct. 22	Jacksonville	(+8)	27-7
Oct. 29	at Tennessee	(+3)	22-28
Nov. 5	at New York Giants	(+13)	10-14
Nov. 12	at Jacksonville	(+10)	13-10
Nov. 19	Buffalo	(-3)	21-24
Nov. 26	at New York Jets	(+4.5)	11-26
Dec. 3	at Oakland	(+3)	23-14
Dec. 10	Tennessee	(-1)	20-26*
Dec. 17	at New England	(+12)	7-40
Dec. 24	Indianapolis	(+9)	27-24
Dec. 31	Cleveland	(-6)	14-6

\* OVERTIME

## TEKANS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
19	Adams, Charlie	WR	6-2	190	4	Hofstra	0/0
28	Alexander, Roc	CB	5-10	190	4	Washington	1/0
50	Anderson, Charlie	LB	6-4	243	4	Mississippi	13/0
89	Anderson, David	WR	5-10	197	2	Colorado State	13/0
93	Babin, Jason	DE	6-2	259	4	Western Michigan	15/3
51	Barber, Shawn	LB	6-2	240	10	Richmond	13/1
32	Bennett, Fred	CB	6-1	195	R	South Carolina	
72	Black, Jordan	OT	6-5	310	4	Notre Dame	16/15
62	Bray, Trent	LB	6-1	227	1	Oregon State	0/0
65	Brisiel, Mike	OG	6-5	310	1	Colorado State	0/0
24	Brown, C.C.	S	6-0	204	3	Louisiana-Lafayette	15/15
3	Brown, Kris	PK	5-11	208	9	Nebraska	16/0
87	Bruener, Mark	TE	6-4	256	13	Washington	15/4
79	Bulman, Tim	DT	6-4	292	2	Boston College	0/0
55	Clark, Danny	LB	6-2	245	8	Illinois	16/0
60	Cochran, Earl	DE	6-5	272	2	Alabama State	1/0
43	Cook, Jameel	FB	5-10	237	7	Illinois	11/6
81	Daniels, Owen	TE	6-3	247	2	Wisconsin	14/12
11	Davis, André	WR	6-1	195	6	Virginia Tech	16/1
36	Dayne, Ron	RB	5-10	245	8	Wisconsin	11/6
54	Diles, Zach	LB	6-0	240	R	Kansas State	
85	Dreessen, Joel	TE	6-4	260	3	Colorado State	0/0
26	Earl, Glenn	S	6-1	215	4	Notre Dame	15/15
38	Faggins, Demarcus	CB	5-10	180	6	Kansas State	11/10
58	Flanagan, Mike	C	6-5	301	12	UCLA	9/9
21	Fletcher, Jamar	CB	5-10	180	7	Wisconsin	13/2
75	Frye, Brandon	OL	6-4	302	R	Virginia Tech	
35	Gado, Samkon	RB	5-10	226	3	Liberty	9/1
30	Green, Ahman	RB	6-0	218	10	Nebraska	14/14
56	Greenwood, Morlon	LB	6-0	238	7	Syracuse	16/16
31	Harrison, Brandon	S	6-2	227	R	Stanford	
71	Herrion, Atlas	OG	6-4	305	1	Alabama	0/0
57	Hodgdon, Drew	C	6-3	291	3	Arizona State	9/5
29	Horton, Jason	CB	6-0	190	4	North Carolina A&T	0/0
34	Hutchins, Von	CB	5-9	181	4	Mississippi	3/0
62	Jackson, Scott	OG-OT	6-4	300	3	Brigham Young	0/0
80	Johnson, Andre	WR	6-3	219	5	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
96	Johnson, Thomas	DT	6-2	298	3	Middle Tennessee St.	10/3
99	Johnson, Travis	DT	6-3	305	3	Florida State	9/8
12	Jones, Jacoby	WR	6-3	210	R	Lane	
94	Kalu, N.D.	DE	6-3	265	11	Rice	15/3
78	Killings, Cedric	DT	6-2	310	5	Carson-Newman	4/0
44	Leach, Vonta	FB	6-0	250	4	East Carolina	12/4
33	Lundy, Wali	RB	5-10	214	2	Virginia	14/8
95	Maddox, Anthony	DT	6-1	295	4	Delta State	12/9
97	Malone, Alfred	DT	6-5	308	2	Troy	2/0
13	Mathis, Jerome	WR	5-11	184	3	Hampton	2/0
20	McCleon, Dexter	CB	5-10	195	11	Clemson	16/5
28	McKenzie, Chris	CB	5-8	182	1	Arizona State	0/0
76	McKinney, Steve	OG	6-4	302	10	Texas A&M	16/6
91	Okoye, Amobi	DT	6-2	302	R	Louisville	
53	Orr, Shante	LB	6-0	250	5	Michigan	16/11
48	Pittman, Bryan	LS	6-3	270	5	Washington	16/0
69	Pitts, Chester	OG	6-3	320	6	San Diego State	16/16
5	Porter, Quinton	QB	6-5	228	1	Boston College	0/0
88	Putzier, Jeb	TE	6-4	256	6	Boise State	14/5
23	Robinson, Dunta	CB	5-10	174	4	South Carolina	16/16
18	Rosenfels, Sage	QB	6-4	225	7	Iowa State	4/0
59	Ryans, DeMeco	LB	6-2	236	2	Alabama	16/16
74	Salaam, Ephraim	OT	6-7	300	10	San Diego State	15/14
8	Schaub, Matt	QB	6-5	237	4	Virginia	16/0
22	Simmons, Jason	S	5-9	198	10	Arizona State	16/2
77	Spencer, Charles	OT	6-4	352	2	Pittsburgh	2/2
7	Stanley, Chad	P	6-3	205	8	Stephen F. Austin	16/0
82	Steele, Ben	TE	6-5	260	2	Mesa College	0/0
42	Stone, Michael	S	6-0	201	6	Memphis	2/0
64	Studdard, Kasey	OG	6-2	303	R	Texas	
27	Taylor, Chris	RB	5-11	220	1	Indiana	4/0
10	Van Pelt, Bradlee	QB	6-2	220	2	Colorado State	0/0
40	Walker, John	S-CB	6-1	204	1	Southern California	0/0
83	Walter, Kevin	WR	6-3	214	5	Eastern Michigan	16/2
70	Weary, Fred	OG	6-4	308	6	Tennessee	15/12
98	Weaver, Anthony	DE	6-3	280	6	Notre Dame	15/15
63	White, Chris	C	6-2	285	3	Southern Mississippi	0/0
86	Williams, Harry	WR	6-2	186	2	Tuskegee	0/0
90	Williams, Mario	DE	6-7	291	2	North Carolina State	16/16
73	Winston, Eric	OT	6-7	310	2	Miami (Fla.)	12/7
52	Wong, Kailee	LB	6-2	250	9	Stanford	10/0
25	Wynn, Dexter	CB	5-9	175	4	Colorado State	15/0
92	Zgonina, Jeff	DT	6-2	290	15	Purdue	14/2



AFC WEST

SAN DIEGO

## CHARGERS



LES BENTLEY

LaDAINIAN  
TOMLINSON

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **11-5** 1st place /  
AFC West

One would think that a club coming off an NFL-best 14-2 year wouldn't be in a hurry to get rid of its head coach. But after a handful of assistant coaches departed for promotions — including coordinators Cam Cameron and Wade Phillips — and

the tenuous relationship between Marty Schottenheimer and general manager A.J. Smith continued to deteriorate, Schottenheimer and his 200 career wins were deemed

expendable.

49ers offensive coordinator Norv Turner was hired to replace Schottenheimer. Turner, while adept at tutoring young quarterbacks and calling plays, has not found much success in the head-coaching ranks with a combined 58-82-1 record in previous stops in Washington and Oakland. In fairness, he worked with two of the more meddling owners in sports in Daniel Snyder and Al Davis, and he never had a wealth of talent like the one he inherits in San Diego.

To say the cupboard was left full for

Turner would be an understatement. By re-signing OLB Shaun Phillips and OG Kris Dielman in the offseason, the Chargers assured themselves of heading into 2007 with arguably the most complete roster in the league.

But the Chargers still need to do it on the big stage. A lack of postseason success was part of Schottenheimer's downfall. It's time to see if Turner is up to the task.

## Offense

Esteemed coordinator Cam Cameron took Miami's head-coaching job, but few offensive minds are as qualified to replace

1





him as Norv Turner, who rose to stardom as the coordinator of the dominant Cowboys offenses in the early 1990s. Turner also is well-regarded for his work with young passers, which should boost the stock of the already impressive Philip Rivers.

**QUARTERBACKS** • The Chargers received some criticism when they let Pro Bowler Drew Brees walk as a free agent, but the decision looked just fine when Philip Rivers finally started earning his paycheck as a former first-rounder. Rivers is smart, tough and very competitive. His low, unorthodox release isn't ideal, but his vision and quick release compensates for it. Although he rarely gets rattled in the face of pressure and can throw accurately while moving in the pocket, he isn't mobile enough to pull away from pass rushers and doesn't have the big-time arm to force passes into tight spots. After Brees departed for New Orleans, the Chargers spent a third-round pick on Charlie Whitehurst in '06. Scouts like his size, arm strength and touch, and he can freeze defenders with quality play-action fakes. Billy Volek rounds out the QB crop, and with his starting experience from his days with the Titans, he is probably the best No. 3 option in the league.

**RUNNING BACKS** • Superlatives seem to flow like a mountain stream when asking NFL people about LaDainian Tomlinson's skill set. In winning the MVP trophy and setting the NFL record for touchdowns in a season in '06, Tomlinson showed why his vision, quick feet and body control are bordering on legendary. His run instincts and patience in setting up blockers are impressive, and he is a master at the jump-cut and slashing back against the grain. Just as easily as he makes tacklers miss, he can also lower a shoulder and run them over or beat them to the corner with a burst of speed. As if that wasn't enough, L.T. is also an accomplished receiver who caught 100 passes a few years ago. He has natural hands and is an explosive runner after the catch who strikes fear in the hearts of linebackers in the flat. Behind him, the Chargers have the luxury of Michael Turner, who averaged a gaudy 6.3-yard average in '06 and generated interest as a restricted free agent and trade target this offseason. The physical

Turner runs with a low center of gravity and shows good acceleration through the hole, but he isn't the most elusive. Pint-sized return specialist Darren Sproles, who was a workhorse in college, returns from a fractured fibula that cost him his entire rookie campaign. Punishing FB Lorenzo Neal loves contact and goes all out, but he's off-balance at times and slides off more blocks than he used to.

**RECEIVERS** • Besides the obvious athleticism, soft hands and speed, what impresses scouts the most about star TE Antonio Gates is how quickly he gets off the line and into his routes and how easily he picked up the nuances of the game despite not playing college football. He is the first option in the

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **LaDainian Tomlinson**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
OLB **Shawne Merriman**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
WR **Vincent Jackson**

The third-year wideout is blessed with impressive size and athleticism and showed signs of turning the corner late in 2006.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
CB:  
**Antonio Cromartie vs. Drayton Florence**

The two split time last season, but sources suggest a rare talent like Cromartie won't go without a larger role for long.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
None.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
LB Donnie Edwards, LB Steve Foley, WR Az-Zahir Hakim, SS Terrence Kiel, TE Ryan Krause, WR Keenan McCardell.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Craig Davis	WR	LSU	30
2	Eric Weddle	S	Utah	37
3	Anthony Waters	LB	Clemson	96
4	Scott Chandler	TE	Iowa	129
5	Legedu Naanee	WR	Boise State	172
7	Brandon Siler	ILB	Florida	240



passing game, hauling in 71 receptions for 924 yards and nine touchdowns in '06, when he caught at least five passes in eight games. He shields defenders well with the ball in the air and has good leaping ability in the red zone. While improved as a blocker, he needs to do a better job finishing. Massive backup TE Brandon Manumaleuna is another lineman on the field, but he is surprisingly nimble for his size and can help in the passing game. Rookie TE Scott Chandler moves well as a former wide receiver but needs to get more physical as a blocker. The offseason release of veteran WR Keenan McCardell signals a changing of the guard in San Diego and opened the door for Vincent Jackson to stake his claim as the No. 1 wideout. His rookie year was derailed by nagging injuries, but he came on with more playing time in the second half of last season, catching 14 passes for 286 yards and three touchdowns in the last four games. At 6-5 and 241 pounds, he is a long strider with great athleticism and good speed, but he needs to get stronger against bump-and-run coverage and polish his route-running. Eric Parker is

a gutsy No. 2 who is better-suited as a No. 3. He had a rough time in the playoff loss to New England but is ordinarily a sure-handed, clutch target who is fearless across the middle and fights for the ball. The Chargers spent their first-round pick on LSU's Craig Davis, who has good straight-line speed and is strong after the catch. He could contribute immediately if his routes become more precise. Malcom Floyd and Kassim Osgood are both good red-zone targets at 6-foot-5.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The re-signing of athletic OLG Kris Dielman in March was a big move for the Chargers' line, as he is viewed as a rising star among NFL insiders. Dielman, a former defensive tackle, gets into blocks quickly, shows good lateral movement and hand use and plays with strength and tenacity to finish. Next to him, with Roman Oben's slow-healing leg injury, 2006 rookie OLT Marcus McNeill stepped into the starting lineup in camp and was phenomenal. With good size (6-7, 336) and strength, McNeill can dominate defensive ends if he gets his hands on them. His footspeed wasn't considered a strength coming out of college, but he was rarely caught out of position. C Nick Hardwick is solid in the middle and has quick hands and feet to be a factor at the second level and help in recovery. Lacking ideal bulk, he handles quickness better than power. At right guard, Mike Goff is experienced, dependable and tough. He plays with a wide base, knows angles and isn't fooled by much, but he isn't all that explosive and can struggle in space, especially when he doesn't play with a good pad level. ORT Shane Olivea has decent size and strength and is good at running speed rushers past the quarterback, but he isn't all that explosive off the ball and doesn't have the longest arms to shock defenders. Assistance off the bench comes from Oben (a proven starter), young C Cory Withrow and OG-C Scott Mrczkowski.

## Defense

The Chargers boasted one of the league's most feared pass rushes in '06 and finished 10th overall in yards allowed and seventh in points. On paper, it's a sound group with a young nucleus. But how much the departures of ILB Donnie Edwards and defensive coordinator Wade Phillips will hurt remains to be seen. Ted Cottrell, who was out of the league in '06 but has a good track record from stints with the Bills, Jets and Vikings, replaces Phillips.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • You won't find anyone in the Chargers' locker room or around the NFL who would suggest NT Jamal Williams isn't the key to San Diego's stingy 3-4 attack. He uses a powerful build, brute strength and remarkable quickness off the ball to alter the line of scrimmage. He beats double teams regularly and finds the ball very quickly. Williams doesn't have a ton of moves, but he doesn't need them. Igor Olshansky and Luis Castillo are solid 3-4 defensive ends. Castillo is the better pass



rusher (seven sacks in '06) and can move inside on passing downs. He doesn't own a great closing burst and needs to establish some counter moves, but he has good functional play strength and never stops working to the ball. The powerful Olshansky is like an extra defensive tackle on the line. He has gotten better at recognizing plays at the line of scrimmage and can jolt and neutralize offensive linemen, but he's limited as a pass rusher. DEs Jacques Cesaire and Derreck Robinson and DT Ryon Bingham provide depth.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Few teams can lose a player of Donnie Edwards' caliber and feel as confident as the Chargers do entering '07. The tandem of OLBs Shawne Merriman and Shaun Phillips, who combined for 28½ sacks last year, is a big reason why. The athleticism, range, strength and explosive quickness Merriman plays with make opposing passers fearful, and he is a tenacious competitor who only knows one speed. Although he is surprisingly fluid in coverage drops, his awareness could improve. Phillips earned a starting job when Steve Foley was involved in an off-the-field incident prior to Week One. Phillips' dynamic first step and closing speed off the edge rival Merriman's. He has improved vs. the run but needs some refinement while working zones at the second level. Inside, Stephen Cooper and Matt Wilhelm finally get their chance at larger roles with Edwards and Randall Godfrey moving on. Cooper provides some added toughness

and split time with Godfrey last season. He is good at changing directions, covering backs and tight ends and making the open-field tackle. His reaction time will need to improve in a full-time role, however. Wilhelm is an intelligent and hard-nosed linebacker who can take on blockers and stuff the run but looks stiff and overmatched when asked to turn and run with backs in coverage. Marques Harris, Tim Dobbins, Carlos Polk and rookies Anthony Waters and Brandon Siler provide decent depth.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ San Diego's top three corners rival most others in the league. Some NFL insiders believe Quentin Jammer really elevated his game in '06. He likes to throw receivers off routes with a physical approach at the line of scrimmage and shows good athletic ability and a smooth pedal. Jammer is a willing contributor vs. the run and seemed to take fewer chances and improve his consistency in '06. Opposite Jammer, second-year CB Antonio Cromartie, the team's first-round pick in '06, appears destined to supplant Drayton Florence after splitting time last fall. On athletic ability alone, the 6-2, 203-pound Cromartie is in a class with Champ Bailey. He is fluid and fast when turning and running vertically. Also, he can smother receivers at the line with his long arms and make plays on the ball. The only negative with him is a lack of experience, as he only really played one year at Florida State. Florence can plant and change

directions effortlessly and displays good anticipation, but he makes mistakes, especially in zone coverage and when matched up vs. speed in the slot. FS Marlon McCree was a solid addition last year. He reads the quarterback's eyes well, has good recognition and can hit, but he didn't make a ton of big plays and can overrun the ball on occasion. The release of Terrence Kiel opens the door for competition at strong safety. Rookie Eric Weddle is smart and disciplined but not the most physical player. Clinton Hart and Bhawoh Jue are experienced and versatile backups who will have a say.

## Special teams

A healthy Darren Sproles will likely assume the lead role in the return game, although CB Antonio Cromartie, RB Michael Turner and S Eric Weddle are capable as well. The Chargers are set with PK Nate Kaeding and P Mike Scifres. Kaeding connected on 26-of-29 FG tries, and 35 of Scifres' 69 punts came to rest inside the 20 (with only two touchbacks).

## Summary

The Chargers cut the cord with Marty Schottenheimer once his coordinators left, so the task of bringing a Super Bowl title to Southern California now falls on the shoulders of Norv Turner, who looks to have all the pieces in place to make a legitimate run.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	27-0	40-7	13-16	23-13	48-19	27-30	38-24	32-25	49-41	35-27	21-14	24-21	48-20	20-9	20-17	27-20	5840
Total net yards	302	476	284	341	421	349	419	381	431	342	260	335	419	353	340	387	5840
Rushing yards	194	241	150	119	87	97	216	190	107	125	110	197	143	265	168	189	2578
Passing yards	108	235	134	222	334	252	203	191	324	217	150	138	276	88	172	218	3262
Rushing plays	48	37	40	31	30	23	35	23	26	29	25	35	36	38	33	33	522
Sacks allowed	0	0	1	4	0	4	1	3	3	1	1	3	1	2	1	3	28
Had intercepted	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	1	9
Fumbles lost	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	6
Yards penalized	25	53	78	10	51	60	43	113	45	35	49	30	38	61	85	15	791
Punts	5	2	5	3	1	3	3	6	5	3	5	6	3	6	10	3	69

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	24:12	21:25	26:18	26:08	24:12	28:58	29:06	32:54	31:18	30:49	32:25	25:37	29:14	31:46	32:51	26:28	28:21
Total net yards	129	218	206	265	274	355	412	293	545	326	245	230	328	241	314	444	4825
Rushing yards	87	55	56	68	92	134	101	84	128	158	84	63	162	90	153	98	1613
Passing yards	42	163	150	197	182	221	311	209	417	168	161	167	166	151	161	346	3212
Rushing plays	20	19	21	18	14	30	21	27	27	35	26	24	28	21	33	22	386
Sacks allowed	9	0	2	5	5	2	3	5	3	2	5	3	4	6	6	1	61
Had intercepted	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	1	2	0	16
Fumbles lost	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	1	12
Yards penalized	54	55	30	30	116	50	20	50	44	60	56	10	10	23	50	93	751
Punts	9	7	7	3	4	5	5	4	3	4	6	7	4	7	9	4	88

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

#### RUSHING

Neal	3-6-0		5-13-0	1-3-0	5-15-0	1-10-0				3-7-0		3-8-0	3-20-1	2-10-0	1-2-0	2-46-0	29-140-1
Parker	1-18-0						1-1-0										2-19-0
Pinnock											1-2-0	1-4-0	2-19-0				4-25-0
Rivers	3-2-0	3-10-0	1-0-0	6-24-0	2-2-0	2-2-0	4-4-0	3-(-3)-0	3-2-0	2-1-0	5-(-1)-0	2-(-1)-0	3-1-0	4-(-2)-0	4-6-0	1-2-0	46-49-0
Tomlinson	31-131-1	19-71-2	26-98-0	13-36-0	21-71-4	15-86-0	25-183-2	18-172-3	22-104-4	20-105-3	19-109-2	28-178-2	28-103-3	25-199-2	22-123-0	16-66-0	348-1815-28
Turner	10-37-1	13-138-0	7-46-0	11-56-0	1-0-0	4-18-0	5-28-1	2-21-0	1-1-0	4-12-0				7-58-0	4-29-0	11-58-0	80-502-2
Volek																3-(-3)-0	3-(-3)-0
Whitehurst		1-14-1				1-(-1)-0											2-13-1

#### PASSING \*\*

Rivers	8-11-0	25-35-0	13-22-1	24-37-1	29-39-0	25-43-1	15-23-0	19-28-0	24-36-0	19-26-2	14-31-1	17-29-0	15-23-0	8-23-2	10-30-0	19-24-1	284-460-9
Tomlinson	106-1	235-1	145-1	242-2	334-2	266-2	206-1	211-0	338-3	222-2	133-0	160-1	279-2	97-0	181-2	231-2	3388-22
		0-1-0				1-1-0					1-1-0						2-3-0
		0-0				1-1					19-1						20-2

#### RECEIVING

Floyd		1-9-0	1-31-1	2-18-1		1-19-0	1-5-0	2-8-0	5-109-1	1-7-0		1-4-0					15-210-3
Gates	2-26-1	4-55-0	4-41-0	3-55-1	5-78-1	9-63-1	5-66-0	2-22-0	5-69-0	5-48-0	6-81-1	7-104-2	1-7-0	2-63-0	4-56-1	71-924-9	
Jackson		2-15-1	1-6-0	1-13-0	1-33-1			1-11-0	1-18-0	3-39-1	3-32-0		3-95-0	3-66-0	5-97-2	3-28-1	27-453-6
Manumaleuna	1-9-0	2-4-0	1-5-0		1-3-0	4-23-1			2-14-2	1-1-0			2-33-0				14-91-3
McCardell	1-18-0	5-58-0		4-37-0	6-65-0	4-51-0	2-22-0	5-64-0	2-49-0	1-6-0		2-24-0			1-4-0	3-39-0	36-437-0
Neal		1-1-0	1-18-0	1-(-1)-0				1-21-0	2-11-0	1-5-0	1-6-0	1-(-1)-0	1-4-0	2-3-0	1-7-0	2-6-0	17-83-0
Parker	1-38-0	1-25-0	4-37-0	5-86-0	7-88-0	2-39-0	4-56-0	5-65-0	1-14-0	4-42-0	4-28-0	3-29-0	1-34-0	1-16-0		5-62-0	48-659-0
Tomlinson	3-18-0	7-51-0	1-7-0	8-34-0	7-64-0	6-72-1	3-57-1	3-20-0	6-54-0	3-74-1	1-5-0	3-14-0	1-9-0	1-5-0	1-10-0	2-14-0	56-508-3

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Norv Turner

## San Diego Chargers

4020 Murphy Canyon Road  
San Diego, CA 92123  
858/874-4500  
Official Website: www.chargers.com  
Stadium: Qualcomm Stadium  
Capacity: 70,000  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 14-2; First in AFC West

**Owner:** Alex G. Spanos; **President/CEO:** Dean A. Spanos; **Executive vice president:** Michael A. Spanos; **Executive vice president/general manager:** A.J. Smith; **Executive vice president/COO:** Jim Steeg; **Assistant general manager/director of player personnel:** Buddy Nix; **Vice president of football operations:** Ed McGuire

**Head coach:** Norv Turner

**Assistant coaches:** Clancy Barone, *tight ends*; Bill Bradley, *secondary*; Ted Cottrell, *defensive coordinator*; Steve Crosby, *special teams*; Jack Henry, *offensive line*; Hal Hunter, *offensive line*; Jeff Hurd, *strength and conditioning*; James Lofton, *wide receivers*; Wayne Nunnely, *defensive line*; John Pagano, *outside linebackers*; John Ramsdell, *quarterbacks*; Ron Rivera, *inside linebackers*; Kevin Ross, *asst. secondary/quality control*; Clarence Shelton, *offensive coordinator*; Matt Simon, *running backs*; Vernon Stephens, *asst. strength and conditioning*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

WR <b>88 PARKER</b>	80 Floyd	82 Camarillo	13 Simmons
OLT <b>73 McNEILL</b>	72 Oben		
OLG <b>68 DIELMAN</b>	63 Mruczkowski		
C <b>61 HARDWICK</b>	65 Withrow		
ORG <b>79 GOFF</b>	63 Mruczkowski		
ORT <b>70 OLIVEA</b>	71 Lekkerkerker		
TE <b>85 GATES</b>	86 Manumaleuna	87 Chandler*	
WR <b>83 JACKSON</b>	84 Davis*	81 Osgood	89 Naanee*
QB <b>17 RIVERS</b>	6 Whitehurst	7 Volek	
RB <b>21 TOMLINSON</b>	33 Turner	43 Sproles	
FB <b>41 NEAL</b>	34 Pinnock		

### DEFENSE

DLE <b>93 CASTILLO</b>	98 Robinson		
NT <b>76 WILLIAMS</b>	97 Bingham		
DRE <b>99 OLSHANSKY</b>	74 Cesaie		
LOLB <b>95 PHILLIPS</b>	92 Harris	52 Polk	
LILB <b>54 COOPER</b>	51 Dobbins	59 Siler*	
RILB <b>57 WILHELM</b>	51 Dobbins	53 Waters*	
ROLB <b>56 MERRIMAN</b>	52 Polk		
LCB <b>23 JAMMER</b>	29 Florence	24 Gordon	
RCB <b>31 CROMARTIE</b>	29 Florence		
SS <b>42 HART</b>	32 Weddle*		
FS <b>20 MCCREE</b>	27 Jue		

### SPECIALISTS

P <b>5 SCIFRES</b>			
PK <b>10 KAEDING</b>			
H <b>5 SCIFRES</b>	6 Whitehurst		
PR <b>43 SPROLES</b>	88 Parker	32 Weddle*	
KR <b>43 SPROLES</b>	31 Cromartie	33 Turner	
LS <b>50 BINN</b>			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Chicago	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	at New England	8:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Green Bay	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	Kansas City	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	at Denver	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 14	Oakland	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 21	BYE	
Oct. 28	Houston	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Indianapolis	8:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	Baltimore	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Detroit	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 24	Denver	8 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Oakland	4:15 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Pointspread refers to San Diego

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 11	At Oakland	(-3)	27-0
Sept. 17	Tennessee	(-11)	40-7
Sept. 24	BYE		
Oct. 1	At Baltimore	(0)	13-16
Oct. 8	Pittsburgh	(-3)	23-13
Oct. 15	At San Francisco	(-10)	48-19
Oct. 22	At Kansas City	(-6)	27-30
Oct. 29	St. Louis	(-9.5)	38-24
Nov. 5	Cleveland	(-13.5)	32-25
Nov. 12	At Cincinnati	(-1)	49-41
Nov. 19	At Denver	(+3)	35-27
Nov. 26	Oakland	(-13.5)	21-14
Dec. 3	At Buffalo	(-5.5)	24-21
Dec. 10	Denver	(-7.5)	48-20
Dec. 17	Kansas City	(-8.5)	20-9
Dec. 24	At Seattle	(-4)	20-17
Dec. 31	Arizona	(-14)	27-20
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 14	New England	(-5)	21-24

## CHARGERS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
49	Applewhite, Antwan	LB	6-3	246	R	San Diego State	
26	Arline, Anthony	CB	6-2	198	R	Baylor	
97	Bingham, Ryon	DT	6-3	303	3	Nebraska	16/0
36	Battle, Tra	SS	5-11	173	R	Georgia	
60	Bihl, Mark	C	6-4	298	R	Michigan	
50	Binn, David	LS	6-3	223	14	California	16/0
30	Buckley, Eldra	RB	5-9	207	R	Tennessee-Chattanooga	
82	Camarillo, Greg	WR	6-1	190	2	Stanford	4/0
93	Castillo, Luis	DE	6-3	290	3	Northwestern	10/9
74	Cesaie, Jacques	DE	6-2	295	5	So. Connecticut St.	16/10
87	Chandler, Scott	TE	6-7	257	R	Iowa	
66	Clary, Jeromey	OT	6-6	304	1	Kansas State	0/0
78	Coleman, Andre	DE	6-3	287	R	SUNY-Albany	
54	Cooper, Stephen	LB	6-1	235	5	Maine	16/4
31	Cromartie, Antonio	CB	6-3	209	2	Florida State	16/0
90	Cryer, Barry	DE	6-2	287	R	Nebraska	
84	Davis, Craig	WR	6-1	207	R	LSU	
68	Dielman, Kris	OG	6-4	310	5	Indiana	15/15
51	Dobbins, Tim	LB	6-1	247	2	Iowa State	16/0
	Elliott, Brett	QB	6-3	210	1	Linfield	0/0
29	Florence, Drayton	CB	6-0	195	5	Tuskegee	16/16
80	Floyd, Malcolm	WR	6-5	225	2	Wyoming	12/0
38	Franklin, Gabe	CB	5-10	190	1	Boise State	0/0
85	Gates, Antonio	TE	6-4	260	5	Kent State	16/16
79	Goff, Mike	OG	6-5	311	10	Iowa	16/16
24	Gordon, Cletis	CB	6-1	197	2	Jackson State	2/0
28	Gregory, Steve	CB	5-11	185	2	Syracuse	14/0
96	Grennan, Keith	DE	6-4	298	R	Eastern Washington	
46	Griffeth, Kelly	TE	6-5	298	1	Fort Hays State	0/0
22	Gross, Tyrone	RB	5-9	213	1	Eastern Oregon	0/0
61	Hardwick, Nick	C	6-4	295	4	Purdue	16/16
92	Harris, Marques	LB	6-1	231	3	Southern Utah State	15/1
42	Hart, Clinton	SS	6-0	205	5	Central Florida C.C.	16/1
11	Hicks, Jarrett	WR	6-3	211	R	Texas Tech	
83	Jackson, Vincent	WR	6-5	241	3	Northern Colorado	16/7
23	Jammer, Quentin	CB	6-0	200	6	Texas	16/16
62	Jones, Mike	OG	6-5	312	R	Iowa	
39	Jones, Quinton	CB	5-9	182	R	Boise State	
27	Jue, Bhawoh	FS	6-0	200	7	Penn State	12/2
10	Kaeding, Nate	PK	6-0	187	4	Iowa	16/0
40	Kahui, Kurt	LB	6-1	240	1	San Diego State	0/0
71	Lekkerkerker, Cory	OT	6-7	323	3	California-Davis	15/0
94	Leonard, Louis	DT	6-4	330	R	Fresno State	
86	Manumaleuna, Brandon	TE	6-2	288	7	Arizona	16/7
20	McCree, Marlon	FS	5-11	202	7	Kentucky	14/14
91	McKinney, Brandon	DT	6-2	324	2	Michigan State	6/0
73	McNeill, Marcus	OT	6-8	336	2	Auburn	16/16
44	Merrick, Miguel	FS	5-10	202	R	Iowa	
56	Merriman, Shawne	LB	6-4	272	3	Maryland	12/12
45	Merriweather, Reggie	RB	5-7	218	R	Clemson	
4	Monroe, Brian	P	6-1	204	R	Miami (Fla.)	
63	Mruczkowski, Scott	C-OG	6-5	318	3	Bowling Green	7/1
89	Naanee, Legedu	WR	6-2	226	R	Boise State	
41	Neal, Lorenzo	FB	5-11	255	15	Fresno State	16/11
72	Oben, Roman	OT	6-4	305	12	Louisville	2/0
70	Olivea, Shane	OT	6-4	312	4	Ohio State	16/16
99	Olschansky, Igor	DE	6-6	309	4	Oregon	13/13
81	Osgood, Kassim	WR	6-5	220	5	San Diego State	16/0
88	Parker, Eric	WR	6-0	180	6	Tennessee	15/12
95	Phillips, Shaun	LB	6-3	262	4	Purdue	14/14
34	Pinnock, Andrew	FB	5-10	250	5	South Carolina	3/0
52	Polk, Carlos	LB	6-2	262	7	Nebraska	16/4
16	Race, Germaine	RB	5-10	218	R	Pittsburgh State	
17	Rivers, Phillip	QB	6-5	228	4	North Carolina State	16/16
48	Roach, Nick	LB	6-0	234	R	Northwestern	
64	Robertson, Erik	OG	6-2	310	R	California	
98	Robinson, Derreck	DE	6-4	289	3	Iowa	14/0
12	Schroeder, Chad	WR	6-1	182	R	Texas A&M	
5	Scifres, Mike	P	6-2	236	5	Western Illinois	16/0
15	Shackelford, Sonny	WR	6-1	188	R	Washington	
67	Sheffey, Jeremy	OG	6-2	291	R	West Virginia	
59	Siler, Brandon	LB	6-2	239	R	Florida	
13	Simmons, Mark	WR	5-10	187	1	Kansas	0/0
43	Sproles, Darren	RB-KR	5-6	181	3	Kansas State	0/0
21	Tomlinson, LaDainian	RB	5-10	221	7	Texas Christian	16/16
47	Tucker, Jyles	LB	6-3	258	R	Wake Forest	
33	Turner, Michael	RB	5-10	237	4	Northern Illinois	13/0
7	Volek, Billy	QB	6-2	214	8	Fresno State	1/0
35	Warren, Mike	FB	6-1	249	1	Elon College	
53	Waters, Anthony	LB	6-3	245	R	Clemson	
32	Weddle, Eric	SS	5-11	200	R	Utah	
6	Whitehurst, Charlie	QB	6-4	225	2	Clemson	2/0
57	Wilhelm, Matt	LB	6-4	245	5	Ohio State	16/0
76	Williams, Jamal	DT	6-3	348	10	Oklahoma State	16/16
65	Withrow, Cory	C-OG	6-2	287	8	Washington State	11/0



DENVER

## BRONCOS



ROB WOLT / SPORTSPICS

CB CHAMP  
BAILEY

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **10-6** 2nd place /  
AFC West

**W**e were told by several sources that the Broncos wouldn't just sit back this offseason despite having one of the league's more complete rosters. They would definitely make noise, we were told. And that they did.

With the Jay Cutler era officially underway, Jake Plummer and his big salary were traded to Tampa Bay; soon after, he retired. The Broncos sent leading rusher Tatum Bell and starting ORT George Foster to Detroit with a draft pick in

exchange for CB Dré Bly.

They also made their presence felt in free agency, signing former Titans RB Travis Henry, former Patriots TE Daniel Graham and backup QB Patrick Ramsey, late of the Jets.

Head coach Mike Shanahan parted ways with coordinator Larry Coyer after the defense fell apart in the second half of the season, replacing him with the highly regarded Jim Bates, who was out of the league in 2006.

The Broncos were left disappointed after narrowly missing out on a playoff spot with a 9-7 record and then had to deal with the tragic deaths of CB Darrent Williams and RB Damien Nash

soon after the season concluded.

But with the moves made in the offseason to bolster an already solid lineup, brighter days should be ahead for the Broncos if Cutler and the defense both improve.

## Offense

Since Mike Shanahan's arrival, the Broncos have relied more on a power-running game than the NFL's other versions of the West Coast offense. With their incredible consistency over the years, and with the addition of Travis Henry, that doesn't figure to change. But assistant head coach Mike Heimerdinger is a fan of spreading the field with three-WR sets, and Cutler's big arm suggests things could turn more



vertical in Denver soon.

**QUARTERBACKS** • Jake Plummer's record in four seasons as the Broncos' starter was a not-so-shabby 39-15, but he could never get Denver to the Super Bowl and failed to earn the trust of the team's faithful. After drafting former Vanderbilt star Jay Cutler in the first round in '06, Mike Shanahan pulled the plug on Plummer after Week 12 despite his team sitting at 7-4 and in the midst of the playoff chase. Cutler finished out the season with mixed results. On some plays, he looked like an inexperienced rookie and forced passes into coverage rather than taking a check-down option or throwing it away. On other plays, he looked like the real deal, standing tall in the face of pressure and showing off his impressive arm strength, accuracy and touch. As with a lot of young passers, Cutler must improve his decision-making, but scouts saw enough during his baptism by fire to believe he's on the right course. The Broncos signed six-year veteran Patrick Ramsey in the offseason for insurance. Ramsey, on his third team in as many seasons, has started 24 games in his career and is known for having a quick release and strong arm.

**RUNNING BACKS** • It might be a bad omen to lead the Broncos in rushing, because it likely means they are as good as gone the next season. Clinton Portis (2003), Reuben Droughns ('04) and Mike Anderson ('05) all departed Denver after being the team's leading rusher, and '06 leading rusher Tatum Bell was sent to Detroit as part of the Dré Bly trade. Bell's departure opened the door for the acquisition of ex-Titan Travis Henry, a powerful bowling ball of a runner who should fit the Broncos' one-cut, downhill rushing style well. In the three seasons in which Henry has more than 213 carries, he has rushed for at least 1,211 yards and scored 30 times on the ground. Mike Shanahan long has sought a workhorse back to move the chains in the fourth quarter, and he believes he found one in Henry, who runs with a low center of gravity, breaks tackles and has a decent short-area burst. Mike Bell had a decent year as an undrafted rookie, rushing for 677 yards and eight touchdowns and showing glimpses of being able to handle a heavier workload. He runs hard and does whatever is asked. FB Kyle Johnson is an underrated receiver in short-yardage situations. Paul Smith and Troy Fleming are other options at fullback.

**RECEIVERS** • When Javon Walker was acquired via trade last April, the Broncos hoped the former Packer would be healthy by the start of the regular season. Walker, after all, had missed nearly all of the previous year after tearing knee ligaments in the '05 opener. And much to their delight, he was every bit the player they had envisioned, instantly becoming the No. 1 option in the passing game. Insiders aren't sure if he's all the way back from the injury yet. His once-explosive speed to pull away after the catch isn't quite the same, but he was awfully close and commands respect with

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **TRAVIS HENRY**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
CB **CHAMP BAILEY**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
QB **JAY CUTLER**

With five starts under his belt and a full off-season and training camp to work with the first-team offense, it's Cutler's time to shine.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
ORG:  
**CHRIS KUPER vs. MONTRAE HOLLAND**

Denver allowed starter Cooper Carlisle to walk because of Kuper's potential, but ex-Saint Holland brings bulk and experience.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

CB Dré Bly, TE Daniel Graham, RB Travis Henry, LB Warrick Holdman, OG Montrae Holland, LB D.D. Lewis, DT Alvin McKinley, QB Patrick Ramsey, P Todd Sauerbrun, WR Brandon Stokley.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

RB Tatum Bell, DE Courtney Brown, OLB Patrick Chukwurah, OT George Foster, DT Michael Myers, QB Jake Plummer.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Jarvis Moss	DE	Florida	17
2	Tim Crowder	DE	Texas	56
3	Ryan Harris	OT	Notre Dame	70
4	Marcus Thomas	DT	Florida	121



his size and strength. Second-year WR Brandon Marshall is a big play waiting to happen with no shortage of size (6-4, 222), speed or athleticism. He tracks the ball extremely well and only needs to refine his game and play a bit more under control. If that happens, it could mean the end of Rod Smith starting. Smith, who holds many team receiving records, doesn't get much separation anymore and is near the end of a sparkling career. He could fit the No. 3 role nicely, however, and has enough savvy to work the underneath routes and come up with some key third-down grabs. The same could be said for former Colts No. 3 WR Brandon Stokley, who is coming off Achilles surgery. Denver has some big expectations for tight end with the combination of Tony Scheffler and Daniel Graham. After a sluggish start to his pro career, Scheffler was given a shot once Jay Cutler took over in Week 12 and looked like a legitimate weapon with great hands and the speed to stretch the seam. Scouts believe Scheffler is ready to break out. Graham

should play in a lot of two-TE sets and will add a lot in the blocking department. Veteran Stephen Alexander provides depth.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The major key for this unit is how well OLT Matt Lepsis bounces back from the major knee surgery that cut short his '06 campaign. Lepsis is a good athlete who gets into defenders quickly, uses his hands well and is great on the move, but he can be suspect against power. Untested youngster Erik Pears held his own in place of Lepsis last year, but the Broncos would prefer to have Pears slide over to right tackle now that George Foster is gone. In a matter of months, Pears went from NFL Europe to starting at left tackle in the NFL. He had his rough spots, but overall he played under control, stayed consistent and should have a bright future at right tackle. C Tom Nalen is getting a little long in the tooth but remains a quality technician and a master of positioning and angles. OLG Ben Hamilton doesn't change directions particularly well, but he gets off the ball quickly and uses good leverage — a must at around 280 pounds. At right guard, the team let Cooper Carlisle walk in free agency because it is high on second-year Chris Kuper. Former Saint Montrae Holland, who has a bit more beef, could beat out Kuper for the ORG job. Veteran OT Adam Meadows provides some experience off the bench, Chris Myers adds versatility inside and rookie Ryan Harris is the future at tackle.

## Defense

The Broncos allowed 7.3 points per game through the first six contests, putting them on a record-setting pace. But they floundered from there on, giving up 26.1 in the remaining 10 games, failing to hold several fourth-quarter leads and costing coordinator Larry Coyer and DL coach Andre Patterson their jobs. Enter Jim Bates, a highly regarded defensive mind who already has established a new mentality in town. Coyer was a bit too reactionary in his thinking. The aggressive Bates is anything but.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • This has been Denver's primary defensive weak link for some time, and 2006 was a far cry from the previous season, when the experiment with a quartet of former Browns worked well. A lackluster pass rush on the edge and average DT play have kept the rest of the defense from reaching its potential in the minds of NFL insiders, and the Broncos were well aware, selecting DEs Jarvis Moss and Tim Crowder and DT Marcus Thomas in April's draft. With fluid movement skills and a great motor to chase from the backside, Moss could develop into a premium pass rusher, but he gets knocked around a lot vs. the run. Crowder doesn't have the edge speed of Moss, but he is bigger, plays with more leverage and is a good tackler who could move inside on passing downs. Thomas, who could push for a starting job, can be nasty but has character concerns and marginal work habits. Veteran DEs Kenard Lang and Ebenezer Ekuban fight hard and



show the occasional nice pass-rush move, but neither is particularly quick or powerful and don't show many special qualities. Another former Brown was added: workmanlike DT Alvin McKinley. In his first year in Denver, DT Gerard Warren shed his label as a loafer and was a force in the trenches, but after getting his big contract last offseason, he regressed in '06. He too often plays in spurts and rarely gives his best effort on a consistent basis. DE Elvis Dumervil, though undersized at 5-11, made his presence felt as a situational rusher in his rookie year. DT Demetris Veal and DE John Engelberger provide depth.

**LINEBACKERS** • Coordinator Jim Bates had big plans for a LB corps that many considered one of the best the league had to offer. But that was before MLB Al Wilson, the heart and soul of the defense, was released for cap reasons in April. Last year, scouts believe the production of this speedy group dropped off mainly because the lackluster defensive line wore down and didn't protect them well enough. WLB Ian Gold is one of the fastest linebackers in the NFL and has the range to track running backs to the sideline or keep up with receivers in coverage. He changes directions quickly, but at 223 pounds, he can have trouble if he's not free to run to the ball. With his athleticism, D.J. Williams is best-suited for the weak side. He wasn't on the field as much as the other two in '06, but insiders believe he is the best of the bunch, and early

indications are that he will slide over to replace Wilson in the middle. Williams closes quickly on the ball, and Bates likely will utilize him more in blitz and nickel packages. Williams' old spot on the strong side will be up for grabs in camp. Newcomers Warrick Holdman and D.D. Lewis and holdover Louis Green will compete for the job, with Holdman having an edge. Nate Webster backs up in the middle.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • You'd be hard-pressed to find a general manager who doesn't think Champ Bailey is the best cornerback in the game. The runner-up to Dolphins DE Jason Taylor for Defensive Player of the Year, Bailey had it all on display in '06, hauling in 10 interceptions and coming up strong in run support. Quarterbacks rarely test his athleticism and instincts, as he plays the ball like a receiver, uses superb footwork to shadow as well as anyone and doesn't lose focus when playing injured. In the wake of CB Darrent Williams' shooting death, the Broncos traded for Lions CB Dré Bly, a two-time Pro Bowler who isn't shy about making plays on the ball. In eight pro seasons, Bly has snared 33 interceptions, forced 17 fumbles and has scored eight touchdowns (five interception returns, two fumble returns and one punt return), but he often gives up as many plays as he makes and isn't considered an elite cover man. He will lose some physical matchups with the bigger receivers, isn't the best tackler and tends to be overaggressive. Although not a great fit for the Lions'

cover-2 scheme, his bump-and-run style should fit well into Bates' plans, however. Third-year CB Dominique Foxworth has a lot of experience as the team's nickel option and might be able to play some safety, where there is an emphasis on getting younger and adding more range. S John Lynch's leadership and intangibles make up for a lack of range. Entering his 15th season, he's rarely out of position and is still a force against the run, but he has a hard time keeping up with fleet-footed tight ends and can be targeted. SS Nick Ferguson and his backup, Sam Brandon, each landed on injured reserve last season, leaving the Broncos especially thin at the position. Brandon and Curome Cox have caught the eye of coaches.

## Special teams

Darrent Williams' passing leaves a void at punt returner, and the Broncos have long been searching for a difference-maker in the return game. Denver is taking a second chance on the strong leg of P Todd Sauerbrun, who spent most of '06 out of the league after being suspended for the first four games following a positive test for a banned substance. PK Jason Elam finished second in the league in FG accuracy in his 14th season. Coverage teams are hit and miss.

## Summary

The Broncos finished '06 with a sour taste in their mouths after narrowly missing out on the playoffs, but a restocked lineup and the arm of Jay Cutler could have them back in the postseason mix this fall.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	10-18	9-6	17-7	13-3	13-3	17-7	31-34	31-20	17-13	27-35	10-19	20-23	20-48	37-20	24-23	23-26		
Total net yards	259	318	400	222	235	347	396	336	264	325	244	302	328	362	287	325	4951	
Rushing yards	161	145	144	116	144	150	227	115	63	158	38	181	162	106	127	115	2152	
Passing yards	98	173	256	106	91	197	169	221	201	168	206	121	166	256	160	210	2799	
Rushing plays	25	36	34	28	31	37	36	23	26	35	16	34	28	38	34	27	488	
Sacks allowed	4	0	0	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	3	4	1	3	3	31	
Had intercepted	3	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	3	1	1	2	0	1	1	2	18	
Fumbles lost	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	1	1	12	
Yards penalized	30	0	52	25	39	30	24	60	15	60	44	25	10	5	10	49	476	
Punts	4	5	8	4	4	6	2	7	7	4	5	7	4	1	6	6	80	

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	32:49	28:21	28:15	31:38	31:36	22:45	28:57	34:33	29:45	29:11	35:02	30:31	30:46	28:08	30:09	32:00	30:09	
Total net yards	320	276	370	257	244	165	437	499	244	342	382	270	419	295	343	360	5223	
Rushing yards	125	145	50	103	85	34	92	96	46	125	223	108	143	100	149	189	1813	
Passing yards	195	131	320	154	159	131	345	403	198	217	159	162	276	195	194	171	3410	
Rushing plays	28	34	21	25	30	13	21	19	26	29	41	31	36	20	34	39	447	
Sacks allowed	3	1	0	2	4	5	0	4	3	1	1	1	1	3	2	4	35	
Had intercepted	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	3	0	2	1	1	0	2	2	1	17	
Fumbles lost	0	2	0	0	1	2	0	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	13	
Yards penalized	94	26	78	15	95	10	55	50	25	35	25	80	38	52	46	61	785	
Punts	3	6	7	6	4	6	1	2	8	3	2	8	3	3	5	7	74	

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

#### RUSHING

M. Bell	10-58-1	13-44-0	4-12-0		1-2-0	10-25-0	15-138-2	17-28-0		20-90-2	10-28-0	4-12-0	10-46-0	16-61-2	16-69-1	11-68-0	157-677-8	
T. Bell	15-103-0	16-69-0	27-123-0	19-92-0	23-83-1	24-115-1	13-27-0		14-37-0			23-133-0	17-116-0	18-29-0	12-50-0	12-48-0	233-1025-2	
Cutler												4-10-0	1-0-0	3-10-0	2-(-1)-0	2-(-1)-0	12-18-0	
Nash									4-14-0	10-52-0	4-0-0						18-66-0	
Plummer		2-(-2)-0	3-9-0	2-11-0	6-30-0	3-10-0	5-22-1	2-6-0	6-6-0	3-8-0	2-10-0					2-2-0	36-112-1	
Sapp				3-10-0			2-39-0		2-6-0	1-1-0		2-24-0					10-80-0	
Walker		2-21-0		2-(-2)-0	1-29-0			1-72-1							3-3-0		9-123-1	

#### PASSING \*\*

Cutler												10-21-2	17-30-0	21-31-1	12-23-1	21-32-1	81-137-5	
Plummer	13-26-3	16-30-1	15-30-0	13-24-1	11-18-0	20-41-2	13-21-0	16-27-0	20-31-3	13-28-1	25-39-1	143-2	188-2	261-2	179-2	0-2-1	175-317-13	
	138-0	173-0	256-2	106-1	102-0	209-1	174-1	227-3	210-2	183-0	216-1					0-0	1994-11	

#### RECEIVING

S. Alexander	2-24-0	2-8-0	1-24-0						1-4-0	3-19-1	2-16-1	1-16-0					18-160-2	
M. Bell	4-30-0	1-12-0					1-7-0	5-40-0		2-17-0	3-5-0				1-13-0	3-34-0	20-158-0	
T. Bell		2-7-0	2-19-0	2-7-0	4-11-0	3-11-0			1-(-2)-0			1-8-0	4-15-0	2-12-0		3-27-0	24-115-0	
Johnson		2-25-0		1-(-1)-0					2-5-1		1-6-0			1-2-0			7-37-1	
Kirous		2-26-0	2-36-0					1-45-0	1-15-0		1-36-0				1-18-0	1-11-0	9-187-0	
Marshall						2-22-1				1-33-0	3-21-0	1-71-1	2-19-0	5-58-0	4-65-0	2-20-0	20-309-2	
Scheffler	1-9-0			1-7-0			4-51-0					1-15-0	3-66-2	3-58-0	2-26-1	3-54-1	18-286-4	
Smith	3-34-0	2-16-0	6-44-0	4-30-1	1-12-0	6-69-0	2-28-0	4-46-1	4-39-0	2-25-0	4-39-0	1-6-0	3-20-0	4-40-1	1-5-0	5-59-0	52-512-3	
Walker	3-41-0	5-79-0	3-130-2	5-63-0	4-75-0	9-107-0	4-40-1	8-134-2	2-62-1	4-68-0	6-55-0	2-17-0	4-52-0	5-84-1	3-52-1	4-25-0	69-1084-8	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Mike Shanahan

## Denver Broncos

13655 Broncos Parkway  
Englewood, CO 80112  
303/649-9000  
Official Website: www.DenverBroncos.com  
Stadium: INVESCO Field at Mile High  
Capacity: 76,125  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 9-7; Third in AFC West

President/CEO: Pat Bowlen; General manager: Ted Sundquist; Director of college scouting: Jim Goodman

Executive V.P. of football operations/head coach: Mike Shanahan

Assistant coaches: Joe Baker, linebackers; Jeremy Bates, wide receivers/quarterbacks; Jim Bates, asst. head coach/defense; Ronnie Bradford, asst. defensive backs; Jacob Burney, defensive line; Rick Dennison, offensive coordinator/offensive line; Mike Heimerdinger, asst. head coach/quarterbacks; Charlie Jackson, defensive assistant; Bill Johnson, defensive line; Pat McPherson, tight ends; Scott O'Brien, special-teams coordinator; Jim Ryan, offensive assistant; Greg Saporta, asst. strength and conditioning; Bob Slowik, defensive coordinator/defensive backs; Ryan Slowik, special-teams assistant; Jimmy Spencer, special-teams assistant; Bobby Turner, running backs; Rich Tuten, strength and conditioning; Steve Watson, associate head coach.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
WR	15 MARSHALL	80 R. Smith	19 Clark	87 Kircus
OLT	78 LEPSIS	64 Pears	75 Meadows	
OLG	50 HAMILTON	73 Kuper	62 Myers	
C	66 NALEN	62 Myers	67 Eslinger	
ORG	70 HOLLAND	73 Kuper	62 Myers	
ORT	64 PEARS	75 Meadows	R. Harris*	71 Nienhuis
TE	88 SCHEFFLER	Graham	82 Alexander	89 Jackson
WR	84 WALKER	14 Stokley	12 Hixon	11 Morgan
QB	6 CUTLER	8 Ramsey	5 Parsons	
RB	20 HENRY	30 Bell	37 Sapp	
FB	26 P. SMITH	39 Johnson	35 Fleming	
DEFENSE				
DLE	CROWDER*	76 Lang	60 Engelberger	98 C. Hall
DLT	THOMAS*	99 McKinley	93 Burton	94 Gordon
DRT	61 WARREN	97 Veal	94 Gordon	
DRE	91 EKUBAN	Moss*	92 Dumervil	90 Peterson
WLB	52 GOLD	55 Williams	Holdman	59 Vaughn
MLB	55 WILLIAMS	58 Webster		
SLB	HOLDMAN	53 Green	Lewis	57 Hollowell
LCB	24 BAILEY	22 Foxworth	28 Shoate	Reid
RCB	32 BLY	22 Foxworth	41 Paymah	36 Hill
FS	47 LYNCH	40 Cox	38 Cargile	
SS	25 FERGUSON	42 Brandon	21 Abdullah	31 Q. Harris
SPECIALISTS				
P	10 SAUERBRUN	3 Ernster		
PK	1 ELAM			
H	6 CUTLER	8 Ramsey		
PR	12 HIXON	87 Kircus		
KR	11 MORGAN	12 Hixon	30 Bell	19 Clark
LS	83 LEACH	62 Myers		

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Buffalo	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	Oakland	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	Jacksonville	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Indianapolis	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	San Diego	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 14	BYE	
Oct. 21	Pittsburgh	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 29	Green Bay	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Detroit	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Nov. 19	Tennessee	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Chicago	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Oakland	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 9	Kansas City	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 13	at Houston	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 24	at San Diego	8 p.m.
Dec. 30	Minnesota	4:15 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Denver

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At St. Louis	(-3.5)	10-18
Sept. 17	Kansas City	(-10.5)	9-6*
Sept. 24	At New England	(+6.5)	17-7
Oct. 1	BYE		
Oct. 9	Baltimore	(-5)	13-3
Oct. 15	Oakland	(-14.5)	13-3
Oct. 22	At Cleveland	(-4.5)	17-7
Oct. 29	Indianapolis	(-3)	31-34
Nov. 5	At Pittsburgh	(+3)	31-20
Nov. 12	At Oakland	(-8.5)	17-13
Nov. 19	San Diego	(-3)	27-35
Nov. 23	At Kansas City	(+2)	10-19
Dec. 3	Seattle	(-4.5)	20-23
Dec. 10	At San Diego	(+7.5)	20-48
Dec. 17	At Arizona	(-3)	37-20
Dec. 24	Cincinnati	(-3)	24-23
Dec. 31	San Francisco	(-11)	23-26*

\* OVERTIME

## BRONCOS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
21	Abdullah, Hamza	S	6-2	216	3	Washington State	11/0
82	Alexander, Stephen	TE	6-4	250	10	Oklahoma	16/14
24	Bailey, Champ	CB	6-0	192	9	Georgia	16/16
30	Bell, Mike	RB	6-0	220	2	Arizona	15/3
33	Belton, Thump	FB	6-0	232	3	Syracuse	0/0
32	Bly, Dré	CB	5-10	188	9	North Carolina	16/16
42	Brandon, Sam	S	6-2	200	6	UNLV	8/0
93	Burton, Antwon	DT	6-2	318	2	Temple	1/0
38	Cargile, Steve	S	6-2	210	3	Columbia	3/0
19	Clark, Brian	WR	6-2	204	2	North Carolina State	6/0
40	Cox, Curome	S	6-1	204	3	Maryland	16/4
	Crowder, Tim	DE	6-4	270	R	Texas	
6	Cutler, Jay	QB	6-3	233	2	Vanderbilt	5/5
92	Dumervil, Elvis	DE	5-11	250	2	Louisville	13/0
91	Ekuban, Ebenezer	DE	6-4	275	9	North Carolina	15/15
1	Elam, Jason	PK	5-11	200	15	Hawaii	16/0
60	Engelberger, John	DE	6-4	252	8	Virginia Tech	16/1
3	Ernster, Paul	P-PK	6-0	217	3	Northern Arizona	16/0
67	Eslinger, Greg	C	6-3	290	1	Minnesota	0/0
25	Ferguson, Nick	S	5-11	201	8	Georgia Tech	10/10
35	Fleming, Troy	FB	6-0	245	3	Tennessee	0/0
22	Foxworth, Domonique	CB	5-11	180	3	Maryland	16/5
52	Gold, Ian	LB	6-0	223	8	Michigan	15/15
94	Gordon, Amon	DL	6-2	305	3	Stanford	0/0
	Graham, Daniel	TE	6-3	257	6	Colorado	12/11
53	Green, Louis	LB	6-3	228	4	Alcorn State	16/0
4	Hackney, Darrell	QB	6-0	240	1	Alabama-Birmingham	0/0
23	Hall, Andre	RB	5-10	205	1	South Florida	0/0
98	Hall, Carlos	DE	6-4	259	5	Arkansas	0/0
50	Hamilton, Ben	OG-C	6-4	283	7	Minnesota	16/16
31	Harris, Quentin	S	6-1	213	6	Syracuse	6/0
	Harris, Ryan	OT	6-5	305	R	Notre Dame	
	Harris, Steven	DT	6-5	287	R	Florida	
20	Henry, Travis	RB	5-9	215	7	Tennessee	14/13
36	Hill, Eric	CB	6-0	190	2	Colorado State	0/0
12	Hixon, Domenik	WR	6-2	185	2	Akron	0/0
	Holdman, Warrick	LB	6-1	243	9	Texas A&M	16/16
70	Holland, Montreae	OG	6-2	322	5	Florida State	8/0
57	Hollowell, T.J.	LB	6-0	235	4	Nebraska	0/0
89	Jackson, Nate	TE	6-3	235	5	Menlo	11/0
9	Johnson, Eddie	P	6-3	236	2	Idaho State	0/0
39	Johnson, Kyle	FB	6-0	242	5	Syracuse	14/7
	Johnson, Teyo	TE	6-6	245	4	Stanford	0/0
87	Kircus, David	WR	6-2	192	4	Grand Valley State	16/0
73	Kuper, Chris	OG	6-4	302	2	North Dakota	1/0
76	Lang, Kenard	DE	6-3	264	11	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
83	Leach, Mike	LS	6-2	245	8	William & Mary	16/0
78	Lepis, Matt	OT	6-4	290	11	Colorado	6/6
	Lewis, D.D.	LB	6-1	241	6	Texas	5/1
47	Lynch, John	S	6-2	220	15	Stanford	16/16
15	Marshall, Brandon	WR	6-4	222	2	Central Florida	15/1
17	Martinez, Glenn	WR	6-1	183	2	Saginaw Valley State	0/0
	McAlmont, Kevin	OG	6-1	320	1	Western Carolina	0/0
	McDaniel, Marquay	WR-RS	5-11	205	R	Hampton	
99	McKinley, Alvin	DT	6-3	294	8	Mississippi State	14/14
75	Meadows, Adam	OT	6-5	290	9	Georgia	3/3
51	Moore, Eddie	LB	6-1	235	4	Tennessee	0/0
11	Morgan, Quincy	WR	6-1	215	7	Kansas State	7/0
	Moss, Jarvis	DE	6-6	251	R	Florida	
85	Mustard, Chad	TE	6-6	277	4	North Dakota	12/4
62	Myers, Chris	C-OG	6-4	300	3	Miami (Fla.)	16/0
66	Nalen, Tom	C	6-3	286	14	Boston College	16/16
71	Nienhuis, Doug	OT	6-6	307	2	Oregon State	0/0
	Pace, Brandon	PK	5-10	193	R	Virginia Tech	
5	Parsons, Preston	QB	6-4	235	3	Northern Arizona	0/0
41	Paymah, Karl	CB	6-0	200	3	Washington State	16/0
64	Pears, Erik	OT	6-8	305	2	Colorado State	16/10
90	Peterson, Kenny	DE	6-3	285	5	Ohio State	3/0
8	Ramsey, Patrick	QB	6-2	225	6	Tulane	14/1
	Reid, Lamont	CB	5-11	195	3	North Carolina State	0/0
69	Rogers, Jacob	OT	6-6	312	3	USC	0/0
37	Sapp, Cecil	RB	5-11	229	5	Colorado State	11/1
10	Sauerbrun, Todd	P	5-10	215	13	West Virginia	2/0
88	Scheffler, Tony	TE	6-5	250	2	Western Michigan	13/5
28	Shoate, Jeff	CB	5-10	180	4	San Diego State	0/0
26	Smith, Paul	RB	5-11	237	8	UTEP	10/3
80	Smith, Rod	WR	6-0	200	13	Missouri Southern	16/16
14	Stokley, Brandon	WR	5-11	197	9	Southwestern Louisiana	4/1
13	Terrell, David	WR	6-3	213	6	Michigan	1/0
	Thomas, Marcus	DT	6-3	314	R	Florida	
86	Trusty, Landon	TE	6-7	266	3	Central Arkansas	0/0
59	Vaughn, Cameron	LB	6-4	241	1	LSU	0/0
97	Veal, Demetris	DT	6-2	288	5	Tennessee	16/1
84	Walker, Javon	WR	6-3	209	6	Florida State	16/16
61	Warren, Gerard	DT	6-4	325	7	Florida	15/15
58	Webster, Nate	LB	6-0	237	8	Miami (Fla.)	3/2
55	Williams, D.J.	LB	6-1	242	4	Miami (Fla.)	16/15



# KANSAS CITY CHIEFS



TUSP

RB LARRY JOHNSON

PREDICTED  
RECORD:

9-7

3rd place /  
AFC West

The winds of change blew through Kansas City last season, and little seemed the same with the Chiefs' organization — for better and worse.

Gone was head coach Dick Vermeil, who retired. Gone was offensive coordinator Al Saunders and the explosive, multi-faceted system that long had dominated the NFL. Gone was future Hall of Fame OLT Willie Roaf, who retired abruptly prior to training camp. Gone was RB Priest Holmes, who didn't play a

down after suffering head and neck trauma in 2005. And gone for eight games with a severe concussion was QB Trent Green.

Enter new head coach Herman Edwards, formerly of the Jets, as well as a much more conservative offense that relied on a ball-control running game and an emphasis on not turning the ball over. The defense was more competitive, but the offensive line looked like a shell of its former self.

In the end, the Chiefs had a lot of things go their way to get them back in the playoffs, but an ugly first-round loss to the Colts signaled a need for

more change.

## Offense

Though the coaching staff insists some of the jargon and philosophies remain the same, it's clear this is no longer Dick Vermeil's offense. With offensive coordinator Al Saunders departing for Washington following Vermeil's retirement after the 2005 season, so too left the successful wide-open, spread system. Saunders and Vermeil never minded taking chances downfield if they resulted in big plays on occasion. New head coach Herman Edwards, who retained several of Vermeil's offensive assistants, didn't adhere to that way of thinking, preferring a much more conservative, ball-control approach that stresses avoiding



turnovers at all costs.

**QUARTERBACKS** • Trent Green had been a staple under center the past six years, guiding the Chiefs' prolific offenses and making two Pro Bowls. But he suffered a severe concussion in the 2006 opener that sidelined him for eight games, and upon his return, he wasn't the same. Green never looked entirely comfortable in the pocket, and a lack of consistent protection didn't help his sagging accuracy or decision-making. At presstime, it was expected that he would be traded to the Dolphins before training camp. Damon Huard, who went 5-3 as the starter in place of Green, wasn't spectacular in any facet of the game, but he showed a good command of the offense, gained the respect of his teammates and — perhaps most importantly, in the eyes of Herm Edwards — didn't make mistakes. His 11 TD passes compared to just one interception was outstanding, but scouts believe he could be exposed the longer he plays and question whether he can carry a team on his shoulders. Huard could bridge the gap between Green (if he's traded) and Brodie Croyle, who looks to be the future. Croyle needs to add bulk to his frame and is considered at least a year or two away from being ready to be handed the reins. Former CFL star Casey Printers is a project.

**RUNNING BACKS** • Just two years ago, Larry Johnson was viewed as a moody and selfish backup who never saw eye to eye with Dick Vermeil and didn't take a liking to sitting behind Priest Holmes. That was then, and this is now. Johnson has exploded on the scene with some jaw-dropping production in the last season and a half. He averaged 150.1 rushing yards and scored 16 times in his nine starts in '05 and followed that up with an NFL-record 416 carries for 1,789 yards and 17 touchdowns in '06. Though the numbers were still staggering, Johnson didn't find the going quite as easy in '06, logging five fewer runs of 20-plus yards despite 80 more carries. A more conservative and predictable system that didn't spread the field as much, a lengthy injury to QB Trent Green and a reshuffled offensive line played a part in Johnson showing more hesitation early on. He has a remarkable blend of speed and power, and scouts are equally impressed by how quickly he hits the hole plus his willingness to lower a shoulder for an extra yard or two. He has good footwork and deceptive moves as well, which make it difficult for tacklers to get a good angle. Michael Bennett, who was dinged up for much of the first half of '06, will play a larger role in hopes of keeping Johnson fresh. Bennett has some of the best pure speed you'll find in a running back, but injuries have hampered his career. Rookie Kolby Smith does a lot of things well but nothing great. He has a strong lower body and good vision but has never been a featured back. The Chiefs let FB Tony Richardson leave as a free agent last spring and missed his presence. Ronnie Cruz handled the FB job until his season-

## PFW PROJECTIONS



### S JARRAD PAGE

Sammy Knight's release signals a larger role for Page, the former seventh-rounder who made a number of plays as a rookie.

### POSITION BATTLE

#### ORT:

### KEVIN SAMPSON vs. CHRIS TERRY

The Chiefs need more stability up front, and Terry, who is trying to resurrect his career, will challenge the injury-plagued Sampson.

## COMINGS AND GOINGS

### KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS

DT Alfonso Boone, LS J.P. Darche, LB Donnie Edwards, LB Napoleon Harris, OT Damion McIntosh, S Jon McGraw.

### KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES

OT Jordan Black, DE Eric Hicks, S Sammy Knight, LB Kawika Mitchell, OG Will Shields, DT Ryan Sims, OT Kyle Turley, CB Lenny Walls.

### 2007 DRAFT PICKS

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Dwayne Bowe	WR	LSU	23
2	Turk McBride	DT/DE	Tennessee	54
3	DeMarcus "Tank" Tyler	DT	North Carolina St.	82
5	Kolby Smith	RB	Louisville	148
5	Justin Medlock	PK	UCLA	160
6	Herbert Taylor	OT	Texas Christian	196
7	Michael Allan	TE	Whitworth (Wash.)	231

## FIVE-YEAR HISTORY



ending injury forced TE Kris Wilson to shift into Cruz's spot. Backup LB Boomer Grigsby will compete as a fullback in '07.

**RECEIVERS** • The re-signing of TE Tony Gonzalez was a good start to the offseason, but the WR department needs plenty of help, as usual. Gonzalez still has the speed to exploit the seam, the athleticism and strength to outmaneuver or outmuscle defenders and runs a wide variety of routes. Several teams choose to put their best cornerback on him, which might be an indictment of the WR corps as much as a tribute to Gonzalez's skills. Also at tight end, Jason Dunn is a valuable blocker and Kris Wilson, who played fullback out of necessity in '06, has plenty of talent but has yet to put it all together. At wide receiver, Eddie Kennison has served as the Chiefs' No. 1 option since his arrival in 2001, but he's better as a No. 2 option. He knows how to get open and still can beat defenders with his deep speed, but he suffers from big

drops and isn't going to make many tough catches over the middle. Coaches have been hoping for big things from Samie Parker for three years, and though he teases on occasion, he disappears too easily during games. Expect first-round pick Dwayne Bowe to challenge Parker for playing time. Bowe isn't the most refined pass catcher, but he is tough and physical with sharp cuts, quick feet and tackle-breaking ability. Jeff Webb has good size and can run, and the Chiefs have plans to get him more involved in his second year. Journeyman Rod Gardner provides depth outside.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The abrupt retirement of future Hall of Fame OLT Willie Roaf last summer and the suspension of ORT John Welbourn threw the Chiefs for a loop, and it's fair to say they never fully recovered. Although some casual observers believe the team solved its problems at left tackle by signing ex-Dolphin Damion McIntosh, several AFC scouts look at his replacing Jordan Black as a push. McIntosh offers glimpses of athleticism at times, but he's top-heavy and not very physical for his size. At right tackle, the Chiefs are hoping Chris Terry will look like the lineman who started 80 games for the Panthers and Seahawks from 1999-2004 before off-the-field problems and a dropoff in performance stalled his career. Oft-injured Kevin Sampson started six times last year and will compete with Terry. Despite decent strength, Sampson is too slow and methodical and remains rough around the edges because of missed time. Inside, the Chiefs are left to cope with the retirement of long-time ORG Will Shields, a lock for the Hall of Fame. Despite earning a Pro Bowl berth, OLG Brian Waters' play took a step back in '06, and not having Roaf next to him was a big factor. He's tough and athletic but didn't look as fluid, got beat by quickness more and didn't finish blocks like in the past. Undersized C Casey Wiegmann has good mobility and is a solid technician who generally has looked better than he is because of those around him. He's not a mauler nor overly athletic. Valuable veterans Chris Bober and Welbourn provide a wealth of versatility along the line. Welbourn could challenge for the ORT job or at right guard to replace Shields. Will Svitek and Tré Stallings are projects.

## Defense

From the day of his hiring, Herman Edwards put a focus on improving this side of the ball, and the early results are promising. Coordinator Gunther Cunningham prefers an aggressive scheme, and he finally has the playmakers he has sought. This offseason, the Chiefs added LBs Donnie Edwards and Napoleon Harris and DT Alfonso Boone.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • It could be argued that the drafting of would-be busts Ryan Sims and Junior Siavii set the DT position back several years, and you wouldn't get many arguments. The interior of the defensive line was considered a big area of need



and was addressed accordingly. The Chiefs re-signed dime-a-dozen run pluggers Ron Edwards and James Reed, both starters in '06, and also signed Alfonso Boone away from Chicago. But the future belongs to rookie DTs Turk McBride and Tank Tyler. McBride can play anywhere on the line and pursues hard, while Tyler can be

disruptive but shows bouts of laziness. Outside, the future looks bright with the DE tandem of Jared Allen and

Tamba Hali. Allen (who will serve a four-game suspension

**B** at the start of the season) charges hard, works creatively to get off blocks and has a knack for making the big play. Though not a stout run defender, he really has improved in holding the point and finding the ballcarrier. Hali is a quality athlete who impressed as a rookie in '06. He's not great vs. the run and disappears a bit as the game progresses, but he has a great first step, a lot of energy and does a good job of tying together rush moves. Jimmy Wilkerson backs up at end.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ A solid LB corps will have two new faces in the mix in MLB Napoleon Harris and WLB Donnie Edwards. Harris isn't the athlete Kawika Mitchell was but is more stout and tough. Edwards returns to Kansas City after five quality seasons in San Diego and replaces the disappointing Kendall Bell. Edwards needs to be protected but is a smooth athlete who flows to the ball and makes a ton of plays. The only time you can really

see any slip in his play is when he's matched up in man coverage. The general consensus is that SLB Derrick Johnson is a star in the making. With tremendous athletic ability and closing speed, Johnson made fewer mistakes in his second year and improved at shedding blocks, which was one of the few knocks on him coming out of college. He is the guy the Chiefs rally around defensively, and he brings plenty of enthusiasm and instincts, but insiders question why he's not used more as a blitzer. Bell, Kris Griffin, Keyaron Fox and Rich Scanlon will compete for backup duty. The free-agent additions of Harris and Edwards certainly are viewed as an improvement, but the pressure will be on the defensive line to free them up to make plays.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Ty Law isn't the shutdown corner he once was, and teams will target him more than they ever did in the past, but he still has some gas in the tank and is as opportunistic as they come. His instincts remain top notch, but he doesn't shadow receivers or break on the ball with the same burst. Opposite him, Patrick Surtain is a good complementary player entering his 10th pro season. He's a good tackler who uses his hands well to keep receivers off balance, but his ball skills have slipped some and he lets plays be made in front of him. The Chiefs released S Sammy Knight, who had become more of a liability in coverage with age, and have made a move to the future. Jarrad Page and

Bernard Pollard have inside tracks at major playing time. Though Page made a few costly mistakes in nickel duty, he hardly looked overwhelmed as a rookie, has good ball skills and made some clutch plays late in games. The big-hitting Pollard, who was relegated to a special-teams role as a rookie, could have a say at strong safety. Holdover SS Greg Wesley, who isn't always in the best position, will have an early lead entering camp. Marcus Maxey and Benny Sapp provide different strengths off the bench at cornerback, and Jon McGraw can fill in at safety.

## Special teams

After a disappointing season, RS Dante Hall, once nicknamed "the human joystick" because of his incredible elusiveness, was dealt to St. Louis for a fifth-round pick in April. Who exactly will fill his shoes in the return game remains up in the air until training camp. The kicking game is more promising with young P Dustin Colquitt (league-leading 39.3-yard net average) and PK Lawrence Tynes (24-of-31 on FG attempts), although surprising fifth-round pick Justin Medlock could challenge Tynes in camp. Coverage teams are mediocre.

## Summary

The Chiefs weren't stagnant during a critical offseason, especially on defense, and Herman Edwards is seeking a mix of youth and experience to carry his club into the postseason for a second straight year.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	CIN	@DAL	ST	@ARI	@PIT	SD	SF	@STL	@MIA	OAK	DET	@CLEV	BAL	@S.D	@OAK	IND	
Score	10-23	6-9	41-0	23-20	7-45	30-27	35-28	31-17	10-13	17-13	19-10	28-31	10-20	9-20	20-9	35-30	
Total net yards	289	276	333	301	213	355	499	317	265	292	382	417	276	241	299	395	5143
Rushing yards	113	145	125	39	38	134	191	186	80	200	223	124	135	90	150	170	2143
Passing yards	176	131	208	262	175	221	308	131	185	92	159	293	141	151	142	225	3000
Rushing plays	25	34	40	22	19	30	53	32	19	37	41	32	30	21	38	40	513
Sacks allowed	7	1	0	3	1	2	1	2	3	2	1	2	5	6	2	3	41
Had intercepted	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	2	12
Fumbles lost	2	2	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	14
Yards penalized	40	26	30	49	50	50	40	23	65	20	25	29	35	23	40	32	577
Punts	4	6	4	6	7	5	1	6	8	3	2	3	3	7	3	4	72

	OPPONENT STATISTICS																
Time of poss.***	28:03	31:39	24:45	30:29	34:31	31:02	17:45	34:40	35:50	32:34	24:58	30:59	33:29	28:14	29:44	29:22	29:53
Total net yards	236	318	165	298	457	349	240	452	306	326	244	438	376	353	307	397	5262
Rushing yards	116	145	89	76	219	97	50	115	117	133	38	150	93	265	112	113	1928
Passing yards	120	173	76	222	238	252	190	337	189	193	206	288	283	88	195	284	3334
Rushing plays	34	36	22	26	42	23	17	28	36	34	16	29	34	38	24	22	461
Sacks allowed	1	0	4	4	1	4	2	2	1	1	2	1	0	2	4	3	32
Had intercepted	0	1	2	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	1	15
Fumbles lost	1	0	2	0	1	2	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	15
Yards penalized	40	0	73	50	41	60	35	67	3	65	44	15	75	61	45	35	709
Punts	5	5	7	8	3	3	4	4	6	4	5	3	4	6	2	6	75

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS ★

RUSHING																		
M. Bennett		6-19-0					10-38-0	4-14-0			3-43-0	2-56-0	3-14-0	6-5-0		2-11-0	36-200-0	
De. Brown			2-8-0	3-2-0											1-3-0	4-11-0	10-24-0	
Cruz			4-15-0		1-4-0												5-19-0	
Green	4-21-0										2-4-0	4-10-0	1-0-0	1-10-0	1-3-0	2-(-1)-0	4-12-0	19-59-0
Huard	1-9-0	1-0-0	1-4-0	2-(-1)-0			3-(-2)-0	1-0-0										
L. Johnson	17-69-0	27-126-0	30-101-0	16-26-0	15-26-1	28-120-0	29-155-3	27-170-5	18-75-1	21-151-0	21-157-1	20-110-0	20-100-0	12-51-0	21-105-1	20-100-0	110-500-0	9-9-0

	17-23-0	27-123-0	30-161-2	26-38-0	15-28-1	28-132-2	39-133-3	27-172-1	16-75-1	31-154-2	34-157-1	28-110-0	23-120-0	19-84-0	31-135-1	33-138-3	416-1789-17
Croyle					3-7-2 23-0												3-7-2 23-0
Green	11-15-1 90-0									9-16-0 102-0	13-22-1 161-0	24-32-1 297-4	15-27-2 178-1	23-41-1 185-0	12-24-1 148-1	14-21-2 181-1	121-198-9 1342-7
Huard	12-20-0 140-1	17-23-0 133-0	18-23-0 208-2	26-38-0 288-2	16-32-1 162-0	15-27-0 232-2	17-25-0 312-1	10-15-0 145-3	15-38-0 201-0							2-3-0 54-0	148-244-1 1878-11

RECEIVING																
M. Bennett										2-10-0	2-20-0	4-33-0	1-14-0			9-77-0
Dunn		1-7-0			1-6-0								2-27-0			4-40-0
Gonzalez	10-81-1	2-7-0	5-59-0	1-25-0	3-15-0	6-138-0	6-116-0	5-63-2	6-84-0		4-35-0	9-105-2	3-31-0	6-53-0	5-67-0	2-21-0
D. Hall	5-31-0	1-6-0	1-13-1	4-22-0		1-9-0		1-12-0	3-32-0	2-10-0	1-10-0		3-38-1	3-16-0	1-5-0	28-204-2
L. Johnson	5-80-0	5-41-0	4-41-0	6-108-1	3-6-0	2-29-0	2-26-1		2-14-0		1-6-0	2-26-0	1-4-0	3-9-0		41-410-2
Kennison	1-14-0	2-39-0	6-86-1	4-48-0	3-57-0	2-30-1	6-132-0	2-19-0	3-58-0	2-38-0	1-16-0	7-117-1	1-13-0	6-43-0	1-6-1	53-860-5
Parker	2-24-0	5-37-0	2-9-0	5-37-1	5-72-0	1-15-0	1-12-0	1-43-0	1-13-0	3-44-0	3-71-0	1-10-0	5-71-0	1-26-0	3-48-0	2-29-0
Wilson			2-13-0	1-6-0	2-13-0	2-26-0	1-11-1				1-3-0	1-6-1	1-7-0	2-11-0	1-17-0	1-19-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.



**Kansas City Chiefs**

One Arrowhead Drive  
Kansas City, MO 64129  
816/920-9300  
Official Website: www.kcchiefs.com  
Stadium: Arrowhead Stadium  
Capacity: 79,451  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 9-7; Second in AFC West

Chairman of the board: Clark Hunt; President/GM/CEO: Carl Peterson; Executive vice president/chief operating officer: Denny Thum; Vice president of player personnel: Bill Kuharich; Vice president of football operations: Lynn Stiles; Senior vice president of administration: Bill Newman

Head coach: Herm Edwards

Assistant coaches: Bob Bicknell, assistant offensive line; Don Blackmon, linebackers; Gunther Cunningham, defensive coordinator; Dick Curi, asst. head coach/quarterbacks; Jon Embree, tight ends; David Gibbs, defensive backs; Charlie Joiner, wide receivers; Michael Ketchum, defensive assistant; Tim Krumrie, defensive line; John Matsko, offensive line; Kevin Patullo, offensive assistant/quality control; Mike Priefer, special teams; Brent Salazar, asst. strength and conditioning; James Saxon, running backs; Cedric Smith, strength and conditioning; Mike Solari, offensive coordinator; Darvin Wallis, defensive assistant/quality control.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART****OFFENSE**

WR <b>18 PARKER</b>	80 Webb	85 Gardner	
OLT <b>77 MCINTOSH</b>	60 Terry	71 Svitek	Taylor*
OLG <b>54 WATERS</b>	76 Welbourn	67 Bober	
C <b>62 WIEGMANN</b>	67 Bober	64 Niswanger	
ORG <b>76 WELBOURN</b>	67 Bober	61 Stallings	73 Hunt
ORT <b>60 TERRY</b>	79 Sampson	76 Welbourn	61 Stallings
TE <b>88 GONZALEZ</b>	84 Wilson	89 Dunn	Allan*
WR <b>87 KENNISON</b>	Bowe*	81 Hannon	
QB <b>11 HUARD</b>	12 Croyle	10 Green	7 Printers
RB <b>27 L. JOHNSON</b>	26 Bennett	Smith*	39 Ross
FB <b>42 CRUZ</b>	84 Wilson	46 Grigsby	

**DEFENSE**

DLE <b>91 HALL</b>	96 Wilkerson	McBride*	
DLT <b>95 R. EDWARDS</b>	70 Boone	96 Wilkerson	
DRT <b>MCBRIDE*</b>	92 Reed	Tyler*	
DRE <b>69 ALLEN</b>	McBride*	96 Wilkerson	
LOLB <b>56 D. JOHNSON</b>	97 Fox	53 Griffin	94 Wusu
MLB <b>50 HARRIS</b>	55 Scanlon	57 Reid	
ROLB <b>59 D. EDWARDS</b>	99 Bell	97 Fox	55 Scanlon
LCB <b>24 LAW</b>	20 Sapp	39 Patterson	
RCB <b>23 SURTAIN</b>	45 Maxey	38 Bragg	
FS <b>44 PAGE</b>	47 McGraw	48 Butler	
SS <b>25 WESLEY</b>	49 Pollard	47 McGraw	

**SPECIALISTS**

P <b>2 COLQUITT</b>			
PK <b>1 TYNES</b>	Medlock*		
H <b>2 COLQUITT</b>	11 Huard		
PR <b>20 SAPP</b>	87 Kennison		
KR <b>80 WEBB</b>	26 Bennett	20 Sapp	
LS <b>51 DANCHE</b>	69 Allen		

\* Rookie

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Houston	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Chicago	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	Minnesota	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at San Diego	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Oakland	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 28	BYE	
Nov. 4	Green Bay	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Denver	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	Oakland	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	San Diego	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Denver	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 16	Tennessee	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Detroit	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at N.Y. Jets	8:15 p.m.*

\* — Game time subject to change

**2006 RESULTS**

Points spread refers to Kansas City

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Cincinnati	(+1)	10-23
Sept. 17	at Denver	(+10.5)	6-9*
Sept. 24	BYE		
Oct. 1	San Francisco	(-7)	41-0
Oct. 8	at Arizona	(-4)	23-20
Oct. 15	at Pittsburgh	(+6.5)	7-45
Oct. 22	San Diego	(+6)	30-27
Oct. 29	Seattle	(-5.5)	35-28
Nov. 5	at St. Louis	(+3)	31-17
Nov. 12	at Miami	(+2)	10-13
Nov. 19	Oakland	(-8)	17-13
Nov. 23	Denver	(-2)	19-10
Dec. 3	at Cleveland	(-4)	28-31*
Dec. 10	Baltimore	(-3)	10-20
Dec. 17	at San Diego	(+8.5)	9-20
Dec. 23	at Oakland	(-7)	20-9
Dec. 31	Jacksonville	(-2.5)	35-30
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 6	at Indianapolis	(+7)	8-23

\* OVERTIME

**CHIEFS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/SS
	Allan, Michael	TE	6-6	254	R	Whitworth (Wash.)	
69	Allen, Jared	DE	6-6	270	4	Idaho State	16/16
5	Barrett, Aaron	PK	5-10	175	1	New Mexico	0/0
	Batiste, George	OT	6-4	289	R	Southern Mississippi	
99	Bell, Kendall	LB	6-1	245	7	Georgia	16/14
26	Bennett, Michael	RB	5-9	207	7	Wisconsin	11/0
67	Bober, Chris	C-OG	6-5	310	8	Nebraska-Omaha	16/2
70	Boone, Alfonso	DT	6-3	305	7	Mt. San Antonio J.C.	12/4
	Bowe, Dwayne	WR	6-2	221	R	LSU	
	Brackenridge, Tyrone	CB	5-11	189	R	Washington State	
38	Bragg, Michael	CB	6-1	190	1	Texas A&M - Kingsville	4/0
48	Butler, Robb	S	6-0	200	1	Robert Morris	0/0
2	Colquitt, Dustin	P	6-3	210	3	Tennessee	16/0
12	Croyle, Brodie	QB	6-2	206	2	Alabama	2/0
	Crum, Brian	LB	6-2	233	R	Florida	
42	Cruz, Ronnie	FB	6-0	237	3	Northern State	5/3
51	Darche, Jean-Philippe	LS	6-0	242	8	McGill	1/0
	Doughty, Stanley	DT	6-1	330	R	South Carolina	
89	Dunn, Jason	TE	6-6	274	11	Eastern Kentucky	15/5
59	Edwards, Donnie	LB	6-2	224	12	UCLA	16/16
95	Edwards, Ron	DT	6-3	315	7	Texas A&M	16/16
	Ekwuekwu, Brad	WR	6-3	216	R	Missouri	
	Fair, Marlon	S	5-10	204	R	Hampton	
97	Fox, Keyaron	LB	6-3	235	4	Georgia Tech	16/4
85	Gardner, Rod	WR	6-2	219	7	Clemson	14/0
88	Gonzalez, Tony	TE	6-5	251	11	California	15/15
10	Green, Trent	QB	6-3	217	14	Indiana	8/8
53	Griffin, Kris	LB	6-3	240	3	Indiana (Pa.)	16/0
46	Grigsby, Boomer	FB	5-11	249	3	Illinois State	15/0
91	Hall, Tamba	DE	6-3	275	2	Penn State	16/16
81	Hannon, Chris	WR	6-3	205	1	Tennessee	0/0
43	Hanoian, Greg	FB	6-2	263	1	Syracuse	0/0
	Harris, Chris	DE	6-5	257	R	Alabama	
50	Harris, Napoleon	LB	6-3	253	6	Northwestern	14/14
	Heard, Michael	DE	6-1	253	R	Mississippi State	
31	Holmes, Priest	RB	5-9	213	11	Texas	0/0
11	Huard, Damon	QB	6-3	218	11	Washington	10/8
73	Hunt, Rob	OG	6-4	301	1	North Dakota State	0/0
4	Jacobs, Omar	QB	6-4	232	1	Bowling Green	0/0
56	Johnson, Derrick	LB	6-3	242	3	Texas	13/12
27	Johnson, Larry	RB	6-1	230	5	Penn State	16/16
87	Kennison, Eddie	WR	6-1	201	12	LSU	16/16
52	Kershaw, William	LB	6-3	240	1	Maryland	1/0
24	Law, Ty	CB	5-11	200	13	Michigan	16/16
45	Maxey, Marcus	CB	6-0	192	2	Miami	1/0
	McBride, Claude	DL	6-2	278	R	Tennessee	
	McGlothlin, Matt	DT	5-11	300	R	Tennessee	
47	McGraw, Jon	S	6-3	208	6	Kansas State	16/3
77	McIntosh, Damion	OT	6-4	320	8	Kansas State	13/13
	Medlock, Justin	PK	5-11	201	R	UCLA	
72	Murphy, Montez	DE	6-6	256	1	Baylor	1/0
	Murphy, Wes	TE	6-3	268	R	Arkansas	
	Newby, James	OT	6-5	294	R	North Carolina State	
64	Niswanger, Rudy	C	6-5	301	2	LSU	4/0
41	Norton, Zach	CB	5-11	185	3	Cincinnati	0/0
44	Page, Jarrad	S	6-0	225	2	UCLA	16/2
18	Parker, Samie	WR	5-11	190	4	Oregon	16/15
39	Patterson, Dimitri	CB	5-10	190	2	Tuskegee	0/0
40	Phinisee, Justin	CB	5-11	199	1	Oregon	0/0
49	Pollard, Bernard	SS	6-1	224	2	Purdue	16/0
	Price, Maurice	WR	6-0	197	R	Charleston Southern	
7	Reed, Casey	QB	6-2	222	1	Florida A&M	0/0
75	Pruneda, Ramiro	OT	6-6	317	1	Monterrey Tech	0/0
	Randolph, Ean	WR	5-8	173	R	South Florida	
92	Reed, James	DT	6-0	286	7	Iowa State	15/15
57	Reid, Nick	LB	6-3	234	1	Kansas	0/0
39	Ross, Derrick	RB	5-10	226	2	Tarleton State	7/0
	Ryan, Titus	WR	6-0	193	R	Concordia	
79	Sampson, Kevin	OT	6-4	312	4	Syracuse	6/6
20	Sapp, Benny	CB	5-9	190	4	Northern Iowa	11/0
55	Scanlon, Rich	LB	6-2	249	4	Syracuse	9/0
	Smith, Kolby	RB	5-11	219	R	Louisville	
61	Stallings, Tre	OG-OT	6-3	315	2	Mississippi	0/0
23	Surtain, Patrick	CB	5-11	195	10	Southern Mississippi	16/16
71	Svitek, Will	OT	6-6	300	3	Stanford	2/0
	Taylor, Herb	OT	6-3	295	R	TCU	
	Terrell, Jeff	QB	6-1	220	R	Princeton	
60	Terry, Chris	OT	6-5	295	8	Georgia	7/0
	Tyler, DeMarcus	DT	6-2	306	R	North Carolina State	
1	Tynes, Lawrence	PK	6-1	202	4	Troy State	16/0
54	Waters, Brian	OG	6-3	320	8	North Texas	14/14
80	Webb, Jeff	WR	6-2	211	2	San Diego State	10/0
76	Welbourn, John	OT	6-5	310	9	California	9/4
25	Wesley, Greg	S	6-2	206	8	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	14/14
62	Wiegmann, Casey	C	6-2	285	12	Iowa	16/16
96	Wilkerson, Jimmy	DE	6-2	290	5	Oklahoma	13/1
48	Willis, Keith	TE	6-6	260	1	Virginia Tech	0/0
84	Wilson, Kris	TE	6-2	251	4	Pittsburgh	16/10
	Wright, T.J.	CB	5-9	177	R	Ohio	
94	Wusu, Timi	LB	6-2	219	1	Stanford	0/0



# OAKLAND RAIDERS



ROB HOLT / SPORTPICS

DERRICK BURGESS

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **4-12** 4th place /  
AFC West

**C**ommitment to excellence, they say. Well, not lately. Not even close.

Since their loss in Super Bowl XXXVII, the Raiders have won 15 games and lost 49, including a dreadful 2-14 campaign last season.

The Raiders and owner Al Davis admitted their mistake in re-hiring head coach Art Shell. They promptly fired him after one turmoil-filled season, and after a puzzling search, took a chance on then-31-year-old Lane Kiffin, the son of longtime Buccaneers defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin.

Kiffin, who kept much of the defensive coaching staff intact by order of Davis, will have former 49ers and Falcons offensive coordinator Greg

Knapp to lean on as his right-hand man. And there is plenty of work to be done with an offense that scored only 12 touchdowns in '06 and finished in the NFL's cellar in several statistical categories.

A young and talented defense, meanwhile, appears on the brink of stardom, finishing third overall in yardage allowed and first against the pass.

Kiffin's biggest obstacles to overcome will be earning respect as the league's youngest head coach and re-establishing a sense of pride in a franchise that has fallen on hard times.

## Offense

Tom Walsh's archaic offensive game plans went over as well in the Raiders' locker room last season as a viewing of "The

Notebook" on a team flight. The game had clearly passed him by, and a late-season demotion in favor of QB coach John Shoop didn't help. Head coach Lane Kiffin hired former 49ers and Falcons offensive coordinator Greg Knapp, which will help his transition from college to the pros, but it will be the young Kiffin who calls the plays.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ The QB outlook in Oakland sure changed over draft weekend. Not only was JaMarcus Russell selected first overall, but veteran Josh McCown was acquired via trade with the Lions. The Raiders are expected to let McCown and third-year QB Andrew Walter battle for the starting role initially, with Russell's progress determining when exactly he takes



over the helm. Capable of using touch or powering the ball down the field, Russell has rare size and arm strength and can make all the throws, even while off-balance and throwing across his body. His athleticism and strength allow him to brush off pass rushers. However, Kiffin & Co. will need to work on his work ethic, timing and anticipation and his ability to make quicker reads. McCown boasts some athletic traits, an instinctive feel for the pass rush and a decent arm, but his decision-making and recognition of defenses need work. Walter hasn't had a lot of fun in his brief NFL career. He completed only 53.3 percent of his passes with three touchdowns and 13 interceptions in place of an injured Aaron Brooks last season. Though he has good size, a big arm and a reasonably quick release, he shows little awareness for pressure and doesn't make great decisions, even when he does have time to throw.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ After a season in which he became a full-time starter for the first time in his career, rushed for 1,025 yards and caught 70 passes, LaMont Jordan's second year in Oakland wasn't nearly as memorable. Plagued by an offensive line that struggled throughout, Jordan was never able to get on track despite good power and a decent burst to the second level. Hip and knee injuries shelved him for the year in Week 12. When healthy, Jordan can be the type of back who wears down defenses and serves as a reliable check-down receiver. Apparently looking for a committee backfield, the Raiders inked free agent Dominic Rhodes, fresh off a sparkling performance in the Super Bowl for the Colts. Speed and shiftiness is his game, but there are doubts concerning a consistent burst and durability if asked to handle a full workload. He's best in a dual role. Justin Fargas shows some flashes with his impressive speed and hits the hole hard no matter if there are defenders there or not, but he has never been able to put it all together. Fourth-round pick Michael Bush has good size and vision and tons of potential, but he must overcome durability issues and keep his weight in check to have a chance. Former Falcons FB Justin Griffith is considered an upgrade in terms of blocking over Zack Crockett. Griffith's soft hands make him a good safety valve in the passing game.

**RECEIVERS** ■ The Raiders believe they took a step in the right direction by trading the mercurial Randy Moss, whose lack of focus and poor attitude rubbed many the wrong way. Although Jerry Porter needs to keep his attitude in check, there are those who felt his crime didn't merit the punishment from Art Shell after the two had an ugly confrontation soon after Shell's hiring. Porter, who never saw eye to eye with Shell, was suspended for two games and benched for 10 others, and the Raiders clearly suffered as a result. Porter isn't the true No. 1 wideout he thinks he is and can have trouble when teams focus on him, but he is big, strong, athletic and fast. So far, he and Lane

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
WR **JERRY PORTER**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DE **DERRICK BURGESS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
OLB **THOMAS HOWARD**

We could be seeing only the tip of the iceberg from the 2006 second-rounder who wowed folks with his speed and ability.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
RB:  
**LaMONT JORDAN vs. DOMINIC RHODES**

The powerful, versatile Jordan struggled on a bad offense before ending '06 on I.R. Now, the Super Bowl hero Rhodes enters the fray in what figures to be a split backfield.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

OG Cooper Carlisle, OT Cornell Green, FB Justin Griffith, QB Josh McCown, C Jeremy Newberry, RB Dominic Rhodes, TE Tony Stewart, WR Mike Williams.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

QB Aaron Brooks, WR Randy Moss, QB Marques Tuiasosopo, OT Langston Walker.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	JaMarcus Russell	QB	LSU	1
2	Zach Miller	TE	Arizona State	38
3	Quentin Moses	DE	Georgia	65
3	Mario Henderson	OT	Florida State	91
3	Johnnie Lee Higgins	WR	UTEP	99
4	Michael Bush	RB	Louisville	100
4	John Bowie	CB	Cincinnati	110
5	Jay Richardson	DE	Ohio State	138
5	Eric Frampton	SS	Washington St.	165
6	Orenthal O'Neal	FB	Arkansas State	175
7	Johnathan Holland	WR	Louisiana Tech	254



Kiffin appear to be on the same page. Ronald Curry nearly saw his career derailed by Achilles and knee injuries in successive years, but he bounced back to become a force at the tail end of last season, catching 33 passes in the final four games. Though robbed of some of his speed, he is very athletic and dependable and knows how to get open. Kiffin hopes he can re-energize the career of Mike Williams, the former first-round pick of the Lions whom Kiffin coached at USC. Williams has big, strong hands and can win battles with size and positioning, but he lacks speed, has weight issues and has generally disappointed. Alvis Whitted, Johnnie Morant, Doug Gabriel and rookie Johnnie Lee Higgins provide depth. At tight end, Courtney Anderson, Randal Williams and John Madsen all have impressive measurables and combined for a

respectable 64 catches in '06, but consistency is needed from a position that should be a young quarterback's best friend. Help arrived this spring in the form of second-round pick Zach Miller, who has natural athleticism, good hands, awareness and versatility. The Raiders added former Bengal Tony Stewart as well.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Here's where the majority of the problems lie for Oakland. The one who takes the majority of the heat is OLT Robert Gallery, the former second overall pick who hasn't displayed the traits that made scouts drool in college. NFL insiders believe the numerous coaching changes and the fact they bounced him around among three different positions at the start of his career didn't help Gallery's progress. There are times when he gets blown back into the backfield vs. power and beaten by speed on the edge. He gets overextended too often, failing to play with much leverage or power, and lets pass rushers dole out punishment instead of taking it to them. After letting the underwhelming Langston Walker leave as a free agent, there is a void at the OLT position. Barry Sims has plenty of experience outside and could shift back there. Also, the Raiders could turn to the massive Chad Slaughter, although his lack of mobility can be exposed over the long term. In a curious offseason move, the Raiders signed aging ex-49ers C Jeremy Newberry, who has battled numerous knee injuries and may not be ready to play by the start of camp. If healthy, he could be an asset and allow C Jake Grove to move to guard, where he played earlier in his career. Grove, a more natural center, was by far the best lineman the Raiders had last year. He shows adequate strength, maintains a good pad level and stays after it, injecting a nasty demeanor to a front that desperately needs more of it. ORG Kevin Boothe was serviceable as a rookie but isn't going to strike fear into anyone. Boothe wants to play physical but seemed too busy helping out his linemates to really establish an identity. Ex-Bronco Cooper Carlisle should fit in at one OG spot, and Corey Hulsey, Adam Treu and Cornell Green are best in spot duty only. Rookie OT Mario Henderson has fluid movement skills but needs technique work.

## Defense

While the offense was in a state of turmoil and Al Davis was sifting through coaches, the one thing Raider fans could take solace in was the fact that coordinator Rob Ryan has a promising, young defense that plays hard no matter the score. Oakland has drafted well and often on this side of the ball in recent years, and the attention is paying off. The Raiders finished third overall in yards allowed and first against the pass.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ DE Derrick Burgess has found new life in Oakland after an injury-plagued start to his career in Philadelphia. With a devastating first step and good leverage, he has racked up 27



sacks the last two years. But if you get your hands on him or ask him to hold the point, he can be run at. Opposite Burgess, Tyler Brayton isn't the answer as a starter but could help in a rotation if athletic rookie Quentin Moses emerges. Moses has a lot of natural pass-rush ability and plays with good balance but needs to get stronger to avoid getting hung up on blocks. Kevin Huntley and rookie Jay Richardson also may figure into the mix at end. On the interior, Warren Sapp had a solid year. He still gets a good push but lets off the throttle more than he did earlier in his career. Terrell Sands and Tommy Kelly play in a rotation with Sapp and are tough to move out of the way, making life easier for the LB corps. Kelly can play anywhere on the line and is quick off the ball, and Sands moves well for a man 6-7 and 335 pounds.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Not long ago, the Raiders were forced to go with a 4-2-5 alignment, mainly due to a lack of capable bodies in the LB corps. That all changed with the drafting of MLB Kirk Morrison and SLB Thomas Howard in successive years. Both bring loads of enthusiasm and speed. After spending his rookie year on the weak side, Morrison moved to the middle in '06 and continued his play-making ways. He's a consistent tackler who can lay a lick on you, moves well laterally in pursuit and has good awareness in coverage. The incredibly athletic Howard stepped into a starting job in training camp and never looked back, showing plenty of improvement right throughout. He is still a bit raw, but he looked more

comfortable as he began learning the game and can run like the wind to make up for mistakes. Major injuries robbed WLB Sam Williams of a lot of time early in his career, but he played in 15 games last season and didn't look like he had lost much in the way of athleticism. Versatile backup Robert Thomas could be starting elsewhere, and it was a mild surprise he decided to stay put in Oakland as a free agent. Former college safety Darnell Bing and Grant Irons provide depth.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ A lot of people expected huge things out of 2006 first-round pick Michael Huff, but league scouts suggest the Raiders didn't put him in a position to make a lot of plays as a rookie and focused more on him learning the ropes. Chances are, with more experience, they will let him take over a rover-type role and freelance a bit more. A part-time corner in college, Huff is at his best when he locks up with tight ends or backs in coverage. Smart FS Stuart Schweigert always seems to be the last line of defense. Just when you think you're going to break a long one, he's there to shut it down, and while not the quickest, he can track well. He may never be a Pro Bowler, but he's steady. CB Nnamdi Asomugha made a name for himself in '06, recording the first eight picks of his four-year career. His rapid ascension, to the point where teams stopped challenging him, took much of the league by surprise.

and added a much-needed dimension to the defense. He's very athletic and has the quickness to turn, change direction and match up vertically. Asomugha carried himself with more confidence in '06, located the ball quicker and showed improved ball skills. Third-year CB Fabian Washington is a good complementary cover guy who will get tested with Asomugha's emergence. Washington is outstanding straight-line speed but has a little trouble when receivers break off routes and work back to the QB. Both are solid tacklers. Stanford Rount, Chris Carr, Derrick Gibson and Jarrod Cooper are backup defensive backs.

## Special teams

On paper, PK Sebastian Janikowski and P Shane Lechler should be the best kicking tandem in the NFL. Janikowski failed to hold up his end of the bargain a year ago, finishing last in the league in field-goal accuracy among kickers with at least 12 attempts. Lechler averaged an eye-opening 47.5 yards per punt. Chris Carr is a better kick returner than punt returner. Oakland's coverage teams have been awful for some time.

## Summary

Al Davis went with Lane Kiffin in the hopes of injecting some youthful exuberance and stability into a franchise left in the doldrums. A strong young defense is ready to win now, but whether a troubled offense can hold its own is uncertain.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	S.O.	@ D.C.	P.O.	@ S.F.	@ DEN.	A.R.	P.T.	@ S.F.	@ DEN.	@ K.C.	@ S.D.	H.O.	@ C.M.	S.T.L.	K.C.	@ N.Y.L.	
Score	0-27	6-26	21-24	20-34	3-13	22-9	20-13	0-16	13-17	13-17	14-21	14-23	10-27	0-20	9-20	3-23	
Total net yards	129	162	240	370	244	395	98	185	244	326	245	302	223	260	307	209	3939
Rushing yards	87	39	194	154	85	137	81	64	46	133	84	113	45	57	112	88	1519
Passing yards	42	123	46	216	159	258	17	121	198	193	161	189	178	203	195	121	2420
Rushing plays	20	26	24	23	30	37	29	13	26	34	26	26	16	18	24	22	394
Sacks allowed	9	6	4	1	4	5	6	9	3	1	5	5	4	4	4	2	72
Had intercepted	0	3	1	4	1	2	1	0	0	1	2	2	1	3	2	1	24
Fumbles lost	1	3	0	1	1	3	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	2	3	2	22
Yards penalized	54	45	47	35	95	70	45	60	25	65	56	60	38	75	45	32	847
Punts	9	4	6	2	4	3	7	10	8	4	6	4	2	4	2	3	78
OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	35:48	32:01	37:06	35:13	28:24	22:59	35:30	35:39	30:15	27:26	27:35	26:28	35:45	31:08	30:16	36:49	31:46
Total net yards	302	264	283	330	235	224	360	371	264	292	260	124	439	251	292	266	4557
Rushing yards	194	138	104	165	144	50	89	207	63	200	110	129	136	148	150	117	2144
Passing yards	108	126	179	165	91	174	271	164	201	92	150	-5	303	103	142	149	2413
Rushing plays	48	31	35	41	31	20	28	39	26	37	25	32	39	35	38	37	542
Sacks allowed	0	2	2	0	2	3	5	3	2	2	1	5	0	4	2	1	34
Had intercepted	0	1	2	1	0	2	4	0	3	0	1	0	3	0	1	0	18
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	5
Yards penalized	25	72	37	20	39	25	70	80	15	20	49	46	40	56	40	31	665
Punts	5	7	2	1	4	4	4	8	7	3	5	5	0	6	3	4	68
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Brooks	3-27-0	2-0-0								5-34-0	4-29-0	3-13-0	2-11-0	2-10-0		1-0-0	22-124-0
Crockett					1-10-0	8-44-0	3-7-0	1-4-0	7-40-0	5-19-0	7-22-0	2-5-0		2-1-0	1-5-0	2-6-0	39-163-0
Fargas	5-35-0	1-1-0	3-54-0	8-63-0	3-11-0	23-66-0	18-55-0	1-(-2)-0	8-(-6)-0	19-52-0	14-32-0	14-49-1	13-37-0	12-43-0	19-90-0	17-79-0	178-659-1
Jordan	10-20-0	19-35-0	20-128-1	12-71-0	23-60-0		7-21-0	9-63-0	10-12-1	4-24-0							114-434-2
Lee					1-0-0	2-7-1	1-(-2)-0			1-4-0	1-1-1	6-42-0	1-(-3)-0	2-3-0	4-17-0	2-3-0	21-72-2
Walter	2-5-0	4-3-0	1-12-0	2-11-0	1-0-0	1-0-0		2-(-1)-0	1-0-0								14-30-0
PASSING **																	
Brooks	6-14-0 68-0									13-22-1 179-1	17-30-2 187-1	25-42-2 238-0	23-39-1 199-1	11-19-0 98-0		15-26-1 136-0	110-192-8 1105-3
Walter	2-5-0 28-0	10-27-3 162-0	9-23-1 68-1	14-23-2 164-1	13-26-1 189-0	17-30-1 263-1	5-14-1 51-0	16-35-0 166-0	18-33-0 214-0	2-3-0 15-0				14-20-2 131-0	27-37-2 226-0		147-276-13 1677-3
RECEIVING																	
Anderson	1-9-0	2-26-0	1-8-0	1-8-1	3-56-0	3-55-0				3-15-1		2-18-0	1-12-0	4-52-0	4-26-0		25-285-2
Crockett					3-20-0	1-3-0	1-6-0	1-4-0				2-19-0	1-1-0		1-0-0		10-53-0
Curry	1-21-0	2-31-0	3-27-0	4-94-0	3-42-0	1-9-0	2-17-0	2-11-0	5-85-0	3-19-0	3-32-0	8-99-1	9-87-0	11-106-0	5-47-0		62-727-1
Fargas				1-5-0				1-21-0	1-12-0	1-16-0	1-9-0	2-2-0	1-87-0	2-7-0	3-9-0		13-91-0
Jordan			2-13-0	3-10-0	2-16-0			1-10-0	1-21-0	1-4-0							10-74-0
Lee					1-9-0			2-17-0	2-10-0			1-5-0	5-57-0	1-6-0	5-21-0	3-13-0	20-138-0
Madsen				1-13-0	1-5-0			1-25-0			3-69-1	1-8-0	2-12-0	1-7-0		1-7-0	11-146-1
Moss	4-47-0	2-32-0	1-5-1	5-52-1	5-86-0	7-129-1	2-20-0	6-76-0	1-8-0		3-26-0	4-44-0	2-28-0				42-553-3
Whitted	1-12-0	3-45-0	1-7-0	1-6-0	2-26-0	2-24-0		3-27-0	4-53-0	2-37-0	2-23-0	1-5-0	5-34-0				27-299-0
R. Williams	1-7-0	1-28-0	1-8-0	1-19-0				1-13-0	5-61-0	3-41-0	4-29-0	6-46-0	1-5-0	1-8-0	2-21-0	1-7-0	28-293-3

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.



**Oakland Raiders**

1220 Harbor Bay Parkway  
Alameda, CA 94502  
510/864-5000  
Official Website: www.raiders.com  
Stadium: McAfee Coliseum  
Capacity: 63,132  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 2-14; Fourth in AFC West

Owner: Al Davis

Chief executive: Amy Trask; Senior personnel executive: Mike Lombardi

Head coach: Lane Kiffin

**Assistant coaches:** Willie Brown, defensive backs/squad development; Tom Cable, offensive line; James Cregg, asst. offensive line; John DeFilippo, quarterbacks; Jeff Fish, strength and conditioning; Curtis Fuller, quality control, special teams; Randy Hanson, asst. defensive backs; Mark Jackson, director of football development; Don Johnson, asst. defensive line; Greg Knapp, offensive coordinator; Sanjay Lal, quality control, offense; Don Martindale, linebackers; George Martinez, quality control, defense; Keith Millard, defensive line; Darren Perry, defensive backs; Tom Rathman, running backs; Rob Ryan, defensive coordinator; Brian Schneider, special-teams coordinator; Kelly Skipper, tight ends.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART****OFFENSE**

WR <b>89 CURRY</b>	M. Williams	80 Gabriel	Higgins*
OLT <b>76 GALLERY</b>	78 Slaughter	65 Sims	
OLG <b>66 CARLISLE</b>	65 Sims	79 McQuistan	
C <b>64 GROVE</b>	60 Newberry	62 Treu	
ORG <b>67 BOOTHE</b>	71 Hulsey	64 Grove	
ORT <b>65 SIMS</b>	74 Green	Henderson*	63 Wilson
TE <b>83 ANDERSON</b>	Miller*	86 R. Williams	85 Madsen
WR <b>84 PORTER</b>	87 Whitted	19 Morant	13 Buchanon
QB <b>MCCOWN</b>	Russell*	16 Walter	10 Booty
RB <b>34 JORDAN</b>	33 Rhodes	25 Fargas	Bush*
FB <b>36 GRIFFITH</b>	32 Crockett	O'Neal*	

**DEFENSE**

DLE <b>MOSES*</b>	91 Brayton	96 Irons	
DLT <b>99 SAPP</b>	90 Sands	77 Hawthorne	
DRT <b>93 KELLY</b>	90 Sands		
DRE <b>56 BURGESS</b>	94 Huntley	Richardson*	92 McNeal
SLB <b>53 HOWARD</b>	96 Irons	57 Brown	48 Clemons
MLB <b>52 MORRISON</b>	55 Thomas		
WLB <b>54 S. WILLIAMS</b>	59 Bing	50 Ekejiuba	
LCB <b>21 ASOMUGHA</b>	23 Carr	22 Starks	
RCB <b>27 WASHINGTON</b>	26 Routt	Bowie*	37 Johnson
SS <b>24 HUFF</b>	40 Cooper	36 Gibson	
FS <b>30 SCHWEIGERT</b>	Frampton*	43 Ward	

**SPECIALISTS**

P <b>9 LECHLER</b>			
PK <b>11 JANIKOWSKI</b>			
H <b>9 LECHLER</b>			
PR <b>23 CARR</b>	Higgins*		
KR <b>23 CARR</b>	87 Whitted	Higgins*	80 Gabriel
LS <b>62 TREU</b>			

\* Rookie

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Detroit	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Denver	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	Cleveland	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Miami	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	BYE	
Oct. 14	at San Diego	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 21	Kansas City	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 28	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	Houston	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 11	Chicago	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	Denver	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Green Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Indianapolis	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	San Diego	4:15 p.m.

**2006 RESULTS**

Points spread refers to Oakland

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 11	San Diego	(+3)	0-27
Sept. 17	at Baltimore	(+13)	6-28
Sept. 24	BYE		
Oct. 1	Cleveland	(+1)	21-24
Oct. 8	at San Francisco	(+3.5)	20-34
Oct. 15	at Denver	(+14.5)	3-13
Oct. 22	Arizona	(+3)	22-9
Oct. 29	Pittsburgh	(+9)	20-13
Nov. 6	at Seattle	(+7)	0-16
Nov. 12	Denver	(+8.5)	13-17
Nov. 19	at Kansas City	(+8)	13-17
Nov. 26	at San Diego	(+13.5)	14-21
Dec. 3	Houston	(-3)	14-23
Dec. 10	at Cincinnati	(+10.5)	10-27
Dec. 17	St. Louis	(-3)	0-20
Dec. 23	Kansas City	(+7)	9-20
Dec. 31	at New York Jets	(+10)	3-23

**RAIDERS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
88	Adkisson, James	TE	6-5	230	2	South Carolina	4/0
83	Anderson, Courtney	TE	6-6	270	4	San Jose State	16/9
21	Asomugha, Nnamdi	CB	6-2	210	5	California	15/15
59	Bing, Darnell	LB	6-2	230	2	USC	0/0
67	Boothe, Kevin	OG	6-5	315	2	Cornell	16/14
10	Booty, Josh	QB	6-2	220	4	LSU	0/0
	Bowie, John	CB	5-11	190	R	Cincinnati	
91	Brayton, Tyler	DE	6-6	280	5	Colorado	16/15
57	Brown, Ricky	LB	6-2	235	2	Boston College	13/0
13	Buchanon, Will	WR	6-3	185	2	USC	2/0
56	Burgess, Derrick	DE	6-2	260	7	Mississippi	16/16
	Bush, Michael	RB	6-2	245	R	Louisville	
66	Carlisle, Cooper	OG	6-5	295	8	Florida	16/16
23	Carr, Chris	CB	5-10	180	3	Boise State	16/0
48	Clemons, Chris	LB	6-3	240	4	Georgia	0/0
58	Condo, Jon	LS	6-3	250	2	Maryland	0/0
40	Cooper, Jarrod	S	6-1	215	7	Kansas State	16/0
32	Crockett, Zack	RB	6-2	240	13	Florida State	16/10
89	Curry, Ronald	WR	6-2	210	6	North Carolina	16/4
	Dickerson, Ricardo	LB	6-1	250	R	Maryland	
20	Echemandu, Adimchinobe	RB	6-0	225	4	California	4/0
50	Ekejiuba, Isaiah	LB	6-4	240	3	Virginia	12/0
31	Eugene, Hiram	DB	6-2	200	2	Louisiana Tech	0/0
25	Fargas, Justin	RB	6-1	220	5	USC	16/6
	Frampton, Eric	S	5-11	205	R	Washington State	
82	Francis, Carlos	WR	5-10	190	4	Texas Tech	0/0
80	Gabriel, Doug	WR	6-2	215	5	Central Florida	16/0
76	Gallery, Robert	OT	6-7	325	4	Iowa	10/10
36	Gibson, Derrick	SS	6-2	215	7	Florida State	16/1
74	Green, Cornell	OT	6-6	315	9	Central Florida	14/0
36	Griffith, Justin	FB	5-11	235	5	Mississippi State	16/11
64	Grove, Jake	C	6-4	300	4	Virginia Tech	16/16
77	Hawthorne, Anttaj	DT	6-3	310	3	Wisconsin	16/0
	Henderson, Mario	OT	6-7	310	R	Florida State	
	Higgins, Johnnie Lee	WR	5-11	185	R	UTEP	
	Holland, Jonathan	WR	6-0	190	R	Louisiana Tech	
53	Howard, Thomas	LB	6-3	240	2	UTEP	16/15
24	Huff, Michael	SS	6-1	205	2	Texas	16/16
71	Hulsey, Corey	OG	6-4	325	7	Clemson	5/4
94	Huntley, Kevin	DE	6-7	270	2	Kansas State	5/0
96	Irons, Grant	LB-DE	6-6	285	6	Notre Dame	2/1
44	Jackson, Tony	TE	6-2	265	2	Iowa	0/0
11	Janikowski, Sebastian	PK	6-2	250	8	Florida State	16/0
37	Johnson, Chris	DB	6-0	200	4	Louisville	0/0
34	Jordan, LaMont	RB	5-10	230	7	Maryland	9/8
	Keele, Eddie	OT	6-5	306	R	Brigham Young	
49	Keith, Charlton	LB	6-4	240	1	Kansas	0/0
93	Kelly, Tommy	DT	6-6	300	4	Mississippi State	16/16
9	Lechler, Shane	P	6-2	225	8	Texas A&M	16/0
42	Lee, ReShard	RB	5-10	220	4	Middle Tennessee	16/3
85	Madsen, John	TE	6-5	220	2	Utah	15/0
	McCown, Josh	QB	6-4	213	6	Sam Houston State	2/0
	McFoy, Chris	WR	6-2	200	R	USC	
92	McNeal, Bryant	DE	6-4	250	4	Clemson	0/0
79	McQuistan, Paul	OG	6-6	315	2	Weber State	15/6
	Miller, Zach	TE	6-5	260	R	Arizona State	
19	Morant, Johnnie	WR	6-4	220	4	Syracuse	11/1
61	Morris, Chris	OL	6-4	305	2	Michigan State	5/0
52	Morrison, Kirk	LB	6-2	240	3	San Diego State	16/16
	Moses, Quentin	DE	6-5	260	R	Georgia	
60	Newberry, Jeremy	C	6-5	305	9	California	0/0
	O'Neal, Oren	FB	5-11	240	R	Arkansas State	
7	Otis, Jeff	QB	6-1	215	1	Columbia	0/0
	Parson, Rich	WR	5-10	183	3	Maryland	0/0
81	Porter, Jerry	WR	6-2	220	8	West Virginia	4/0
73	Quarshie, Michael	DT	6-2	295	2	Columbia	0/0
33	Rhodes, Dominic	RB	5-9	205	7	Midwestern State	16/16
38	Richard, Kris	DB	5-11	190	5	USC	0/0
	Richardson, Jay	DE	6-6	275	R	Ohio State	
26	Routt, Stanford	CB	6-1	195	3	Houston	16/2
	Rowan, Levonne	CB	6-1	190	R	Wisconsin	
	Russell, JaMarcus	QB	6-6	260	R	LSU	
90	Sands, Terrell	DT	6-7	335	7	Tenn.-Chattanooga	16/1
99	Sapp, Warren	DT	6-2	300	13	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
30	Schweigert, Stuart	FS	6-1	210	4	Purdue	16/16
95	Shaw, Josh	DT	6-3	305	3	Michigan State	0/0
	Shotwell, Kyle	LB	6-0	230	R	Cal-Poly	
65	Sims, Barry	OT	6-5	300	9	Utah	11/8
78	Slaughter, Chad	OT	6-8	340	8	Alcorn State	15/6
22	Starks, Duane	CB	5-10	175	10	Miami (Fla.)	5/0
84	Stewart, Tony	TE	6-5	260	7	Penn State	16/3
55	Thomas, Robert	LB	6-0	235	6	UCLA	16/0
	Tollefson, Dave	DE	6-4	265	2	N.W. Missouri State	0/0
62	Treu, Adam	C	6-5	300	11	Nebraska	11/0
47	Wakefield, Fred	TE	6-7	295	7	Illinois	16/1
16	Walter, Andrew	QB	6-6	230	3	Arizona State	12/8
43	Ward, B.J.	S	6-3	208	2	Florida State	0/0
27	Washington, Fabian	CB	5-11	185	3	Nebraska	14/14
87	Whitted, Alvis	WR	6-0	185	10	North Carolina State	14/13
	Williams, Lauren	WR	6-3	195	R	Liberty	
	Williams, Mike	WR	6-4	229	3	USC	8/2
86	Williams, Randal	TE	6-3	235	7	New Hampshire	16/9
54	Williams, Sam	LB	6-5	260	5	Fresno State	15/13
63	Wilson, Mark	OT	6-6	320	4	California	0/0



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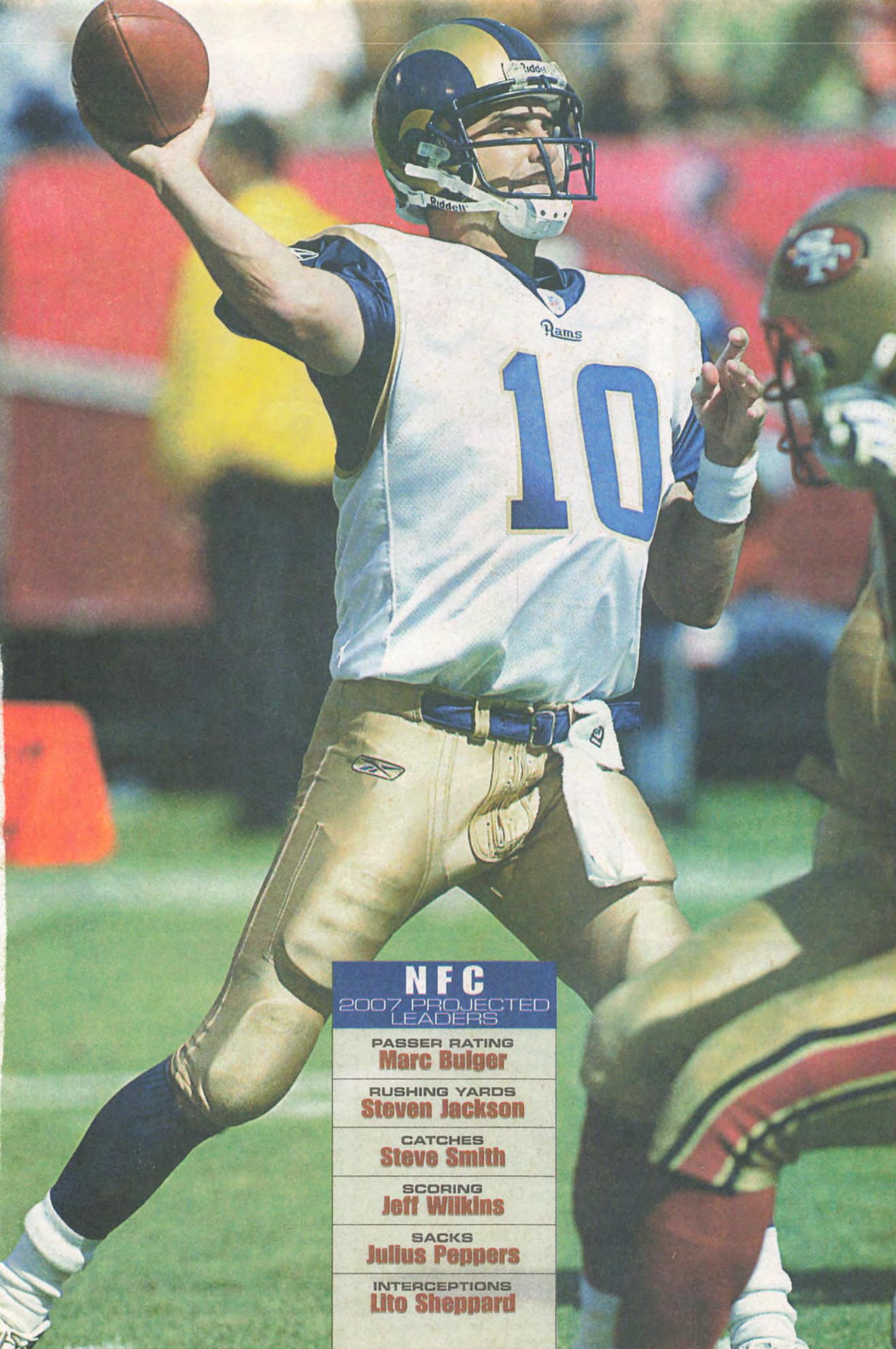
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## NFC

2007 PROJECTED  
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RUSHING YARDS

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**Jeff Wilkins**

SACKS

**Julius Peppers**

INTERCEPTIONS

**Lito Sheppard**

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NFC PREVIEW 2007



# PHILADELPHIA EAGLES



JEFF FISHER

RB BRIAN WESTBROOK

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **11-5** 1st place /  
NFC East

**A** trying season bled over to the off-season when head coach Andy Reid faced legal trouble with two of his children, but the Eagles have thrived on stress and toil. They made a Super Bowl after years of near misses, returned to significance in 2006 after a

rare losing campaign and rallied late in the season after falling to 5-6 in Week 12.

The fact that the team very easily could have been in the NFC championship game shouldn't go overlooked.

Whatever disappointment there was

stemming from the playoff loss in New Orleans, carrying over to Reid's trying family issues, should dissipate as it's clear that this is a title-caliber team — especially in the NFC. If Donovan McNabb can stay healthy and a faulty run defense can make the requisite improvements, there's no reason to think this team won't seriously contend for a trip to Arizona for Super Bowl XLII.

## Offense

Andy Reid and Marty Mornhinweg have styled a West Coast hybrid offense that leaves plenty of room for Donovan McNabb's improvisation as well as his improved deep touch. The emergence of

Brian Westbrook as a durable, every-down option makes this group even more dangerous, though Reid almost certainly will default to his standard 60-40 pass-run ratio. A veteran line and good depth should mean another fruitful season provided McNabb can stay on the field and that the team can establish a deep presence without WR Donté Stallworth.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ What Donovan McNabb needs most is an injury-free season. He has suffered season-ending injuries in three of his past five seasons, including a torn ACL in Week 11 in '06. He's expected to make a full recovery and return before the start of training camp, but the team used its top draft pick on Kevin Kolb. Though McN-



abb's accuracy slipped a bit in '06, his interception total was low and he made the highest percentage of big plays of his career, averaging a whopping 8.4 yards per attempt. He also ran a bit more than the previous two seasons, making him even tougher to defend. McNabb could be poised to match his career-best numbers of '04 once more.

The team let Jeff Garcia walk, leaving A.J. Feeley, Kelly Holcomb and Kolb to battle for the backup spot. Feeley isn't great at anything but has enough athleticism and pocket presence to be a decent fill-in. Holcomb lacks a strong arm but has good moxie. Kolb was a system QB in college who needs refinement, but his production, confidence and athleticism can't be overlooked.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Brian Westbrook developed into one of the NFL's best backs and stayed healthy — even with an increased workload. He totaled 317 touches from scrimmage, 67 more than he ever had before in a season, and averaged a three-year high of 5.1 yards per carry. He also had nine receptions of 20 yards or more, which shows his gifts as a receiver. Westbrook is very shifty and a nightmare matchup for defenses. He often is motioned out of or into the backfield, lined up wide or in the slot or in split-back formations with Correll Buckhalter. Westbrook might not be the most creative inside runner, but he's tough after contact and keeps his legs moving. Scouts credit his great running and his ability to find creases in zones as a receiver to his great vision. After Buckhalter got fully healthy around midseason, the team used more two-back formations and found success with it. Buckhalter also can spell Westbrook as an I-back, using his good straight-ahead style to move the chains. Another chain-mover, rookie Tony Hunt, runs hard and is the biggest back on the team. FB Thomas Tapeh could improve as a blocker but does a serviceable job.

**RECEIVERS** ■ The loss of Donté Stallworth doesn't concern the staff much. Reggie Brown, scouts say, played like a No. 1 receiver after midseason, when Stallworth was slowed by hamstring injuries. Brown did a better job of gaining separation, tracking the ball in midair and running crisper routes. Though he's not as talented as Terrell Owens, Brown has the chops to be a top-line option, even if his hands and footwork are not exceptional. New acquisition Kevin Curtis has played primarily in the slot, though injuries moved him outside in '06 with the Rams. The Eagles' coaches looked at a lot of film and are convinced that he has the ability to release against bigger corners in press coverage. Curtis' size is a bit prohibitive, but he's a playmaker — his last 100 catches have produced 10 TDs and 62 first downs — who can make a tough catch over the middle or find soft spots in zones. Bidding for the No. 3 role will be Hank Baskett, who's best outside; role player Greg Lewis; sleeper Jason Avant; and Vikings castoff Bethel Johnson, who must make an impact as a returner to make the team. Baskett like-

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
QB **DONOVAN McNABB**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
CB **LITO SHEPPARD**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**DT BRODRICK BUNKLEY**  
He reported late and out of shape, and the team took him to task. A more motivated Bunkley vows to make big changes.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
SLB:  
**CHRIS GOCONG vs. STEWART BRADLEY**  
Gocong tops the depth chart for now and is the better rusher, but Bradley is smart, quick and instinctive and tackles well.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
WR Kevin Curtis, QB Kelly Holcomb, WR Bethel Johnson, DT Monte Reagor, LB Takeo Spikes.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
LB Shawn Barber, QB Jeff Garcia, CB Roderick Hood, S Michael Lewis, WR Donté Stallworth, DT Darwin Walker.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
2	Kevin Kolb	QB	Houston	36
2	Victor Abiamiri	DE	Notre Dame	57
3	Stewart Bradley	OLB	Nebraska	87
3	Tony Hunt	RB	Penn State	90
5	C.J. Gaddis	FS	Clemson	159
5	Brent Celek	TE	Cincinnati	162
6	Rashad Barksdale	CB	Albany (N.Y.)	201
7	Nate Ilaoa	FB	Hawaii	236



ly will play outside in three-WR sets, moving Curtis inside. Baskett is big and runs better than his timed speed, though he's still a bit raw. Avant could earn a regular role, especially if he catches the ball and blocks more consistently than Lewis, who isn't very sturdy. TE L.J. Smith is a strong pass catcher who has made steady improvement each year. He's a perennial breakout candidate who has been held back a bit by nagging injuries and his role in the offense. Backup Matt Schobel had a disappointing first year in Philly; he's not a great blocker, and he dropped catchable passes after arriving with a reputation as a dependable receiver.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The unit played tremendously, especially down the stretch, with all five starters playing all 16 games. OLT William Thomas, entering his 10th season, faces back concerns and has lost some base power. He could be replaced by Winston Justice, who doesn't have Thomas' bulk

but has good upper-body strength and lateral quickness. OLT Jon Runyan is coming off one of his finest seasons. A dominant run-blocker who looked spry at 33, Runyan can maul with anyone in a phonebooth and only looks vulnerable when he's facing elite edge speed. The middle three of C Jamaal Jackson and OGs Shawn Andrews and Todd Herremans helped spearhead a revitalized ground attack. Andrews might be the game's best guard. He has the strength and temperament to play tackle and might replace Runyan down the road. Andrews can maul under tackles and stand up noses. He slimmed down following the death of an obese friend and showed rare focus, playing his best ball to date and earning first-team All Pro. Herremans handled the left side well and showed he can anchor; he and Jackson worked well in tandem on trap blocks. Jackson committed only four penalties, allowed two sacks and handled the QB switch flawlessly. The depth is good with Justice; OG Max Jean-Gilles, a road-grader type; strong-man OG Scott Young, who has improved his technique; OLT Pat McCoy; and stout C-OG Nick Cole, who was used often as a massive lead-blocking fullback in short-yardage packages.

## Defense

Jim Johnson's approach is simple: attack. He blitzes as much as anyone in the league but does so smartly when his team provides a balanced pass rush. The corners can handle man coverage, and the linebackers and ends are athletic enough to drop in coverage, but the run defense was a major concern, ranking 26th last season. A brutal stretch at midseason and the playoff loss to New Orleans displayed the team's biggest weakness. Former special-teams coach John Harbaugh now coaches the secondary.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ What was expected to be a strength turned into a sore spot as injuries and ineffectiveness were major issues. First, Jevon Kearse got hurt; then Darren Howard slipped badly. The depth, assuming everyone is healthy, is good, though one scouting director doubted whether Kearse will be as explosive a rusher as he once was. Still, he has one of the quickest first steps around and is stronger than his frame would suggest. But he must improve vs. the run and against double teams. Howard looked to be the base end the team needed early but fell off badly with only two sacks in his final 11 games. He didn't defend the run well, showed little explosion and didn't play with his typical recklessness. Trent Cole is probably the best pure rusher on the roster. But when pressed into full-time duty, the 250-pound Cole can be a liability against plays run right at him. He figures to rotate, though, as he can play either side. With fewer snaps, he'll be more effective. DTs Mike Patterson and Darwin Walker (now in Buffalo) had down seasons, though Patterson was OK. Brodrick Bunkley, expected to give an immediate boost, was a major disappointment as a rookie. He reported to camp late and unconditioned,



## SCOUTING REPORT

struggled to comprehend the scheme and relied too much on his strength. The Eagles need him to have a big season. DT Montae Reagor can get to the passer, and the staff expects him to push Bunkley for a starting spot. Reagor might fit best as the third tackle because he can play either spot. Juqua Thomas is a valuable situational rusher, and DT LaJuan Ramsey had a few nice moments as a rookie. DE Jerome McDougle gets one more chance to make an impact, but he might have to beat out second-rounder Victor Abiamiri, who has great size and base strength and is a natural left end.

**LINEBACKERS** • MLB Jeremiah Trotter played too heavy, Dhani Jones made shockingly few plays and Matt McCoy wore down. The team has asked Trotter to shed pounds to give his creaky knees a chance; he looked slow and old. He'll be a first- and second-down run plugger who should see his effectiveness improve with fewer plays and less heft. The team traded for Takeo Spikes, who has missed time with Achilles tendon, hamstring and ankle injuries the past two seasons. But when healthy, he has great recognition, closing speed and pop at the point of attack. One AFC scouting director said he thought Spikes had lost a step since the Achilles injury. With Jones having been released, Chris Gocong, who spent his rookie season on injured reserve, and rookie Stewart Bradley will compete on the strong side. Gocong is making the transition from Division I-AA defensive end to

stand-up 'backer and was progressing slowly before injuring his neck. Bradley gives the team a physical presence over the tight end. McCoy seems a natural fit for the nickel job, but Omar Gaither clearly outplayed him after earning the WLB job. Gaither made his share of mistakes but was tough and fluid, able to scrape and slide well. He could end up replacing Trotter in the middle in time. McCoy is hard-nosed and active, but he had trouble getting off blocks and was hindered by a nagging shoulder injury. Athletic Tank Daniels figures in as a reserve.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • There's little not to like about Lito Sheppard and Sheldon Brown other than size. Brown has been vulnerable to bigger receivers such as Giants WR Plaxico Burress and can get beat in man coverage. But Brown is a heady, tough hitter who can jam at the line. Sheppard has great ball instincts, usually matches up with the opponents' top speed receiver and can bait quarterbacks to throw to his side. Though he will give too much cushion in zone, the Eagles play enough man to show off his skills. William James has the inside track to the nickel spot left by the vacated Rod Hood. James, the former Giants starter, wasn't healthy enough to show much to the staff last season but brings good size and toughness. Sean Considine was better than Michael Lewis in coverage, but his lack of size showed by season's end. An off-

season in the weight room should help him as a run supporter and with conditioning. FS Brian Dawkins remains one of the premier players at his position. He's extremely well-conditioned at 33, can play a number of spots (deep middle, over a tight end or receiver or in the box) and has maintained his edge. Dawkins will bite on play action at times, but he has enough make-up speed to compensate. Joselio Hanson is a good fourth corner who was pressed into extra duty, and Quintin Mikell is a sub-package safety.

## Special teams

John Harbaugh gives way to new coordinator Rory Segrest, but there should be little change in approach given that they worked together in '06. The return and coverage units were not as proficient as in years past, but personnel changes had a lot to do with that. Quintin Mikell, Sean Considine and Joselio Hanson are solid coverage guys. PK David Akers is one of the league's best, handling Philly's tricky wind conditions, but P Dirk Johnson was just so-so. Reliable LS Mike Bartrum might retire because of a neck injury, but Jon Dorenbos was an adequate replacement. Bethel Johnson and Jeremy Bloom need to give the return units a boost.

## Summary

With the division's best offense and the potential to make dramatic improvements against the run, the Eagles will be favored to win the NFC East for the sixth time in seven years. If health is not an issue, the Super Bowl is not out of the question.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																		
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS	
OPPONENT	@HOU	N.Y.G.	@S.F.	D.B.	DALL	@N.O.	@T.B.	JAX	WASH	TEN	@IND	CAR	@WASH	@N.Y.G.	@DALL	ATL		
Score	24-10	24-30	38-24	31-9	38-24	24-27	21-23	6-13	27-3	13-31	21-45	27-24	21-19	36-22	23-7	24-17		
Total net yards	441	451	416	398	383	325	506	227	400	390	300	402	263	382	426	393	6103	
Rushing yards	130	107	150	131	52	99	208	85	145	123	149	98	99	161	204	43	1984	
Passing yards	311	344	266	267	331	226	298	142	255	267	151	304	164	221	222	350	4119	
Rushing plays	30	30	18	27	18	19	27	20	34	30	25	27	22	30	42	17	416	
Sacks allowed	1	1	3	4	3	3	1	4	1	0	2	1	0	2	2	0	28	
Had intercepted	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	9	
Fumbles lost	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	15	
Yards penalized	51	66	72	53	67	67	65	50	65	64	15	72	20	103	45	108	983	
Punts	3	5	4	5	8	6	3	7	5	6	3	7	5	3	3	5	78	
OPPONENT STATISTICS																		
Time of poss.***	27:09	32:24	35:21	32:43	36:59	34:03	31:01	36:51	29:31	23:38	30:18	27:37	37:46	28:11	22:54	35:18	31:21	
Total net yards	241	404	392	318	320	373	196	285	278	293	420	377	415	358	201	378	5249	
Rushing yards	70	86	123	99	146	98	111	209	146	209	237	108	210	88	83	159	2182	
Passing yards	171	318	269	219	174	275	85	76	132	84	183	269	205	270	118	219	3067	
Rushing plays	20	26	28	28	39	30	30	46	31	32	41	23	40	22	19	34	489	
Sacks allowed	5	8	3	0	7	0	2	1	0	3	0	0	2	1	3	5	40	
Had intercepted	0	1	0	2	3	2	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	2	2	1	19	
Fumbles lost	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	10	
Yards penalized	20	75	84	62	49	64	15	44	70	15	30	67	68	55	10	99	807	
Punts	5	8	7	5	6	5	6	5	6	7	2	7	3	2	3	5	82	
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																		
RUSHING																		
R. Brown				1-8-0		1-15-1						1-1-0					3-24-1	
Buckhalter	8-50-0	6-6-0	5-16-0	11-49-0	4-16-0	1-5-0	8-31-0	2-10-0	8-20-0	3-16-0	4-18-0	5-17-0	1-4-0	8-48-1	8-38-1	1-1-0	83-345-2	
McNabb	4-7-0	4-31-0	3-1-0	5-47-2	1-1-1		6-76-0	5-37-0	4-12-0								32-212-3	
Westbrook	17-71-0	19-68-1	8-117-2		11-33-1	16-72-0	13-101-0	13-38-0	22-113-0	22-102-0	20-124-1	16-68-0	17-68-0	19-97-2	26-122-0	1-3-0	240-1217-7	
PASSING **																		
Feeley											4-5-0					22-33-0	26-38-0	
											21-0					321-3	342-3	
Garcia				0-1-0						26-48-0	19-23-0	21-39-0	15-23-0	19-28-1	15-23-1	1-3-0	116-188-2	
				0-0						189-1	140-2	312-3	164-2	237-1	238-1	29-0	1309-10	
McNabb	24-35-1	27-45-0	18-33-0	16-30-0	18-33-0	19-32-1	22-35-3	18-34-0	12-26-0	6-13-1							180-316-6	
	314-3	350-2	296-2	268-2	354-2	247-2	302-3	161-0	257-2	78-0							2647-18	
RECEIVING																		
Avant						1-7-0	2-21-0									4-40-1	7-68-1	
Baskett		1-25-0	1-8-0	2-27-0	3-112-1		2-30-0			1-17-0	2-20-0	1-22-0		2-26-0		7-177-1	22-464-2	
R. Brown	2-20-1	1-23-1	5-106-0	3-63-0	4-79-1	6-121-1	4-77-1	1-13-0	1-18-0	2-31-0	2-9-1	5-79-1	3-73-0	4-77-1	3-27-0		46-816-8	
Buckhalter	1-(-1)-0	1-9-0	2-25-0	2-39-0	1-10-0			3-5-0	1-55-1	6-41-0	2-26-0	3-25-0		1-9-0	1-13-0		24-256-1	
G. Lewis	3-24-0	2-25-0	2-31-0	2-75-2	2-32-0	1-11-0		1-4-0			2-26-0	1-14-0	1-7-0	1-18-0	2-29-0	4-52-0	24-348-2	
Schobel		1-11-0	1-60-0	1-11-0	1-16-0	2-41-0	1-8-0	1-4-0			1-3-0		1-1-0		2-35-1	2-24-1	14-214-2	
Smith	6-56-0	7-111-0	3-19-1	2-38-0	2-63-0	4-48-1	4-38-0	1-11-0	1-9-0	7-57-1	4-21-1		3-10-1	4-54-0	2-77-0		50-611-5	
Stallworth	6-141-1	5-81-1		1-28-0				3-56-0	6-139-1	4-75-0	2-9-0	4-111-1	3-31-1	1-5-0	3-51-0		38-725-5	
Tapeh	2-13-0	2-9-0		1-1-0	1-(-1)-0	1-6-0	2-15-1				1-1-0	1-5-0	1-4-0	1-8-0		3-24-0	16-85-1	
Westbrook	4-61-1	7-56-0	4-47-1		5-53-0	3-3-0	7-113-1	8-68-0	3-37-0	12-46-0	7-46-0	6-56-1	3-38-0	5-40-0	2-6-0	1-29-0	77-699-4	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Philadelphia Eagles

NovaCare Complex  
One NovaCare Way  
Philadelphia, PA 19145  
215/463-2500  
Official Website: [www.philadelphiaeagles.com](http://www.philadelphiaeagles.com)  
Stadium: Lincoln Financial Field  
Capacity: 67,594  
Playing surface: DD GrassMaster (natural grass)  
2005 record: 6-10; Fourth in NFC East

Andy Reid

**Chairman/CEO:** Jeffrey Lurie; **President/COO:** Joe Banner; **General manager:** Tom Heckert; **Vice president of player personnel:** Jason Licht; **Director of pro personnel:** Scott Cohen; **Director of college scouting:** Ryan Grigson

**Head coach/executive V.P. of football operations:** Andy Reid

**Assistant coaches:** Juan Castillo, *offensive line*; David Culley, *wide receivers*; John Harbaugh, *secondary*; Pete Jenkins, *defensive line*; Jim Johnson, *defensive coordinator*; Sean McDermott, *linebackers*; Tom Melvin, *tight ends*; Marty Mornhinweg, *asst. head coach/offensive coordinator*; Jeff Nixon, *special-teams quality control*; Bob Rogucki, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Rory Segrest, *special-teams coordinator*; Bill Shuey, *defensive assistant/quality control*; Pat Shurmur, *quarterbacks*; James Urban, *offensive assistant/quality control*; Trent Walters, *secondary*; Ted Williams, *running backs*; Mike Wolf, *strength and conditioning*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
WR	80 CURTIS	84 Baskett	16 B. Johnson	
OLT	72 W. THOMAS	74 Justice		
QLG	79 HERREMANS	62 Jean-Gilles		
C	67 JACKSON	59 N. Cole		
ORG	73 ANDREWS	71 Young		
ORT	69 RUNYAN	68 P. McCoy		
TE	82 L. SMITH	89 Schobel	Celek*	
WR	86 R. BROWN	81 Avant	83 Lewis	11 Bloom
QB	5 McNABB	14 Feeley	Kolb*	10 Holcomb
RB	36 WESTBROOK	28 Buckhalter	Hunt*	23 Moats
FB	38 TAPEN	49 Tuasosopo	Ilaoa*	
DEFENSE				
DLE	93 KEARSE	75 J. Thomas	Abiamiri*	
DLT	98 PATTERSON	91 Rayburn	77 Ramsey	
DRT	94 REAGON	78 Bunkley		
DRE	58 T. COLE	90 Howard	95 McDougale	
SLB	57 GOCONG	Bradley*	56 Daniels	
MLB	54 TROTTER	96 Gaither	51 Spikes	Bradley*
WLB	51 SPIKES	96 Gaither	50 M. McCoy	
LCB	26 SHEPPARD	21 James	Barksdale*	
RCB	24 S. BROWN	22 Hanson	25 Fox	
SS	37 CONSIDINE	27 Mikell		
FS	20 DAWKINS	Gaddis*		
SPECIALISTS				
P	8 D. JOHNSON			
PK	2 AKERS			
H	14 FEELEY	8 D. Johnson		
PR	11 BLOOM	36 Westbrook	26 Sheppard	
KR	16 B. JOHNSON	11 Bloom		
LS	46 DORENBOS	88 Bartrum		

\* Rookie

## EAGLES ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
1	Abiamiri, Victor	DE	6-4	267	R	Notre Dame	
2	Akers, David	PK	5-10	200	9	Louisville	16/0
73	Andrews, Shawn	OG-OT	6-4	340	4	Arkansas	16/16
81	Avant, Jason	WR	6-0	212	2	Michigan	8/3
47	Bagwell, Antoine	RB	5-11	190	1	California (Pa.)	0/0
	Barksdale, Rashad	CB	5-11	208	R	Albany	
88	Bartrum, Mike	TE	6-4	245	13	Marshall	11/0
84	Baskett, Hank	WR	6-4	220	2	New Mexico	16/5
11	Bloom, Jeremy	WR-KR	5-9	180	2	Colorado	0/0
	Bradley, Stewart	LB	6-3	254	R	Nebraska	
86	Brown, Reggie	WR	6-1	197	3	Georgia	16/15
24	Brown, Sheldon	CB	5-10	200	6	South Carolina	16/16
28	Buckhalter, Correll	RB	6-0	217	7	Nebraska	15/0
78	Bunkley, Brodrick	DT	6-2	300	2	Florida State	15/0
45	Cain, Jeremy	FB-LS	6-1	240	3	Massachusetts	0/0
	Celek, Brent	TE	6-4	261	R	Cincinnati	
	Clark, Jeremy	DT	6-3	309	R	Alabama	
3	Cochrane, E.J.	PK	5-11	196	1	Montana State	0/0
59	Cole, Nick	OL	6-0	350	2	New Mexico State	16/0
58	Cole, Trent	DE	6-3	270	3	Cincinnati	16/14
	Collie, Zac	WR	5-11	187	R	Brigham Young	
37	Considine, Sean	S	6-0	212	3	Iowa	16/10
80	Curtis, Kevin	WR	5-11	186	5	Utah State	16/1
56	Daniels, Tank	LB	6-3	248	2	Harding	6/0
42	Davis, Jason	FB	5-10	240	2	Illinois	0/0
20	Dawkins, Brian	FS	6-0	210	12	Clemson	16/16
46	Dorenbos, Jon	LS	6-0	245	5	Texas-El Paso	6/0
	Faulkner, Dereck	WR	6-3	228	R	Hampton	
14	Feeley, A.J.	QB	6-3	225	7	Oregon	2/0
25	Fox, Dustin	CB	5-11	200	2	Ohio State	1/0
	Gaddis, C.J.	FS	5-11	206	R	Clemson	
96	Gaither, Omar	LB	6-1	235	2	Tennessee	16/5
19	Gasperson, Michael	WR	6-4	220	1	San Diego	0/0
57	Gocong, Chris	LB-DE	6-2	263	2	Cal Poly	0/0
	Graham, Nick	CB	5-10	191	R	Tulsa	
22	Hanson, Joselio	CB	5-9	185	3	Texas Tech	16/1
33	Harris, Erick	S	5-11	208	1	Liberty	0/0
63	Harvey, Jasper	C	6-3	305	1	San Diego State	0/0
79	Herremans, Todd	OG-OT	6-6	321	3	Saginaw Valley State	16/16
	Hobbs, Jacob	OG	6-3	303	R	Albany	
10	Holcomb, Kelly	QB	6-2	212	12	Middle Tennessee	0/0
90	Howard, Darren	DE	6-3	275	8	Kansas State	16/16
	Hunt, Tony	RB	6-1	233	R	Penn State	
	Ilaoa, Nate	RB	5-9	245	R	Hawaii	
67	Jackson, Jamaal	C-OG	6-4	330	4	Delaware State	16/16
21	James, William	CB	6-0	200	7	Western Illinois	3/0
17	Jamison, Jermaine	WR	6-3	200	1	Fresno State	0/0
62	Jean-Gilles, Max	OG	6-3	358	2	Georgia	0/0
16	Johnson, Bethel	WR-KR	5-11	200	5	Texas A&M	11/2
8	Johnson, Dirk	P	6-0	205	5	Northern Colorado	16/0
	Jordan, Akeem	LB	6-1	226	R	James Madison	
74	Justice, Winston	OT	6-6	319	2	USC	0/0
93	Kearse, Jevon	DE	6-4	265	9	Florida	2/2
	Kobel, Craig	LB	6-2	265	1	South Florida	0/0
	Kolb, Kevin	QB	6-3	218	R	Houston	
83	Lewis, Greg	WR	6-0	180	5	Illinois	16/3
50	McCoy, Matt	LB	5-11	230	3	San Diego State	15/10
68	McCoy, Pat	OT	6-5	328	2	West Texas A&M	0/0
95	McDougale, Jerome	DE	6-2	264	5	Miami (Fla.)	14/0
5	McNabb, Donovan	QB	6-2	240	9	Syracuse	10/10
27	Mikell, Quintin	S	5-10	206	5	Boise State	16/0
23	Moats, Ryan	RB	5-8	210	3	Louisiana Tech	8/0
9	Mroz, Jeff	QB	6-5	225	1	Yale	0/0
	Murrell, Marques	DE	6-2	246	R	Appalachian State	
	Outlaw, J.J.	WR	5-9	187	1	Villanova	0/0
	Palmer, Jonathan	OT	6-4	336	R	Auburn	
	Paschal, Marcus	S	6-0	201	R	Iowa	
98	Patterson, Mike	DT	6-0	292	3	USC	16/16
77	Ramsey, LaJuan	DT	6-3	291	2	USC	6/0
91	Rayburn, Sam	DT	6-3	303	5	Tulsa	11/0
94	Reagar, Montae	DT	6-3	285	9	Texas Tech	5/5
52	Richmond, Greg	LB	6-1	235	2	Oklahoma State	0/0
6	Rocca, Saverio	P	6-5	265	R	Lakeside, Australia	
64	Rodgers, Stefan	OT	6-4	305	2	Lambuth	0/0
53	Roper, Dedrick	LB	6-2	245	3	Northwood	7/0
69	Runyan, Jon	OT	6-7	330	12	Michigan	16/16
13	Sampy, Bill	WR	5-11	192	1	Louisiana-Lafayette	0/0
89	Schobel, Matt	TE	6-5	255	6	TCU	16/4
26	Sheppard, Lito	CB	5-10	194	6	Florida	13/13
	Smith, Chris	S	5-10	215	R	Florida International	
82	Smith, L.J.	TE	6-3	258	5	Rutgers	16/15
51	Spikes, Takeo	LB	6-2	242	10	Auburn	12/12
38	Tapeh, Thomas	FB	6-1	243	4	Minnesota	16/8
75	Thomas, Juqua	DE	6-2	250	7	Oklahoma State	16/1
72	Thomas, William	OT	6-7	335	10	Florida State	16/16
54	Trotter, Jeremiah	LB	6-1	262	10	Stephen F. Austin	16/16
49	Tuasosopo, Zach	FB	6-2	245	1	Washington	0/0
85	Vickers, Lee	TE	6-6	275	1	North Alabama	0/0
36	Westbrook, Brian	RB	5-10	203	6	Villanova	15/14
	White, Chris	OG	6-3	321	R	South Carolina	
71	Young, Scott	OG	6-4	312	3	Brigham Young	12/0

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Green Bay	1 p.m.
Sept. 17	Washington	8:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	Detroit	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at N.Y. Giants	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	BYE	
Oct. 14	at N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	Chicago	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 28	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	Dallas	8:15 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Washington	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	Miami	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at New England	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 2	Seattle	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	N.Y. Giants	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	at Dallas	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 23	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	Buffalo	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to New York Giants

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 10	At Houston	(-6) 24-10
Sept. 17	New York Giants	(-2.5) 24-30*
Sept. 24	At San Francisco	(-6) 38-24
Oct. 2	Green Bay	(-12) 31-9
Oct. 8	Dallas	(-1) 38-24
Oct. 15	At New Orleans	(-3) 24-27
Oct. 22	At Tampa Bay	(-6.5) 21-23
Oct. 29	Jacksonville	(-8) 6-13
Nov. 5	BYE	
Nov. 12	Washington	(-8) 27-3
Nov. 19	Tennessee	(-13) 13-31
Nov. 26	At Indianapolis	(+10) 21-45
Dec. 4	Carolina	(+3) 27-24
Dec. 10	At Washington	(-2.5) 21-19
Dec. 17	At New York Giants	(+6) 36-22
Dec. 25	At Dallas	(+6.5) 23-7
Dec. 31	Atlanta	(-7) 24-17

POSTSEASON

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Jan. 7	N.Y. Giants	(-6.5) 23-20
Jan. 13	At New Orleans	(+5.5) 24-27

\* OVERTIME



# DALLAS COWBOYS

JAMES D. SMITH



QB TONY ROMO

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **9-7** 2nd place /  
NFC East

The cold cloud of disappointment has been lifted with the retirement of Bill Parcells as coach, and though his record was a respectable 34-30 with two playoff appearances in four seasons, the Cowboys were considered underachievers during his past couple of seasons.

Enter Wade Phillips, who brings a decidedly cheerier demeanor and a reputation as a defensive sage who could turn a good unit into a great one.

The offense will be led by untested coordinator Jason Garrett — hand-

picked by Jerry Jones as a potential head-coach-in-waiting — whose job is to cull the best from exciting but inconsistent QB Tony Romo and make mercurial WR Terrell Owens happy.

Jones appears unburdened with Parcells gone, but that ease could turn to anguish quickly if the team doesn't compete out of the chute. The parts are there to make a run this year.

## Offense

Many are curious to see how Jason Garrett fares as a first-time play-caller, though don't be surprised if Tony Sparano has a significant influence on the design of the offense. He helped produce the team's

steady run game, led by the 1-2 punch of Julius Jones and Marion Barber, and called plays for a fruitful, though unpredictable, passing game. Tony Romo must play with more command, though working with Garrett and operating behind an improved offensive line should help.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Tony Romo at least earned the right to be the team's quarterback with a stellar five-game run, though his struggles in December — when he threw eight interceptions in 157 attempts — showed there's work to do. One NFC defensive coordinator said Romo was vulnerable to pressure and was susceptible to misreading certain defensive looks. The coach also felt Romo tended to press a little bit if he



didn't get into a groove early in games. That said, he provided the best spark the team has seen at QB in several years and should have the moxie, accuracy, touch and intelligence to work hard and improve with a full season's worth of work. The team signed 16-year vet Brad Johnson as a backup, and the heady Johnson will serve as a strong mentor for Romo. Fourth-rounder Isaiah Stanback could be a developmental QB, but he'll first try to make the switch to wide receiver.

**RUNNING BACKS** • Despite rumors that the team might entertain trade talks with Julius Jones in order to give Marion Barber the full-time load, it appears the team will go back to the mostly successful tandem approach. Jones is entering his contract season and likely will be playing with a chip on his shoulder. Though he's not very shifty and doesn't avoid contact well, which has led to some injuries, he proved he's capable of a full season. He runs with authority and has shown a second gear when he gets out in space. Barber opened eyes with his work, scoring 16 TDs in a variety of roles — especially in the red-zone, two-minute and third-down sets. He also spelled Jones and showed a burst that Jones doesn't possess. Barber is a more creative runner, though he too might never be able to take full-time pounding. The team has Lousaka Polite and converted LB Oliver Hoyte at fullback, though rookie Deon Anderson could emerge. Polite is a jack-of-all-trades, master of none, but the bull-strong Anderson is a true lead blocker and could start.

**RECEIVERS** • Terrell Owens put up big numbers in his first season in Dallas, but his value was muted by distractions off the field and big drops on it. Owens dropped at least 14 passes (some have it as high as 20), several of them potentially big plays. To his credit, he produced without being the central figure of the offense and remains a tough matchup one-on-one for most cornerbacks. But at 33, following nagging injuries to his hamstrings and his hand, which required multiple surgeries this offseason, there's a chance that Owens' production falls off. He and Terry Glenn became the first Cowboys duo to top 1,000 yards each since 1979. Glenn works in and out of his breaks smoothly, has great body control and still can turn on the speed when he needs to. Glenn is frail, though, and like Owens, is reaching critical mass at 33. Patrick Crayton plays an important role as the third receiver and should get more chances, and his speed makes him a tough matchup in the slot. Raw reserves Sam Hurd and Miles Austin impressed the previous regime but must continue to produce on special teams to keep their spots. Former CFLer Jamel Richardson is a sleeper worth watching, as is athletic rookie Isaiah Stanback, a former college quarterback who will be tried at wideout. TE Jason Witten is as steady as they come. He's not a great blocker, but he works hard and can make plays down the seam. Another year of working with Tony Romo should

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
QB  
**TONY ROMO**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DE  
**DeMARCUS WARE**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
WR **PATRICK CRAYTON**

With Terrell Owens and Terry Glenn reaching the twilights of their careers, Crayton will play an important role in the offense.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
FS:  
**KEN HAMLIN vs. PAT WATKINS**

Hamlin has the better résumé of the two in terms of experience, but don't write off Watkins and his intriguing size and ball skills.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

OL Leonard Davis, FS Ken Hamlin, QB Brad Johnson.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

QB Drew Bledsoe, OT Jason Fabini, LB Ryan Fowler, C Al Johnson.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Anthony Spencer	OLB	Purdue	26
3	James Marten	OT	Boston College	67
4	Isaiah Stanback	WR-QB	Washington	103
4	Doug Free	OT	Northern Illinois	122
6	Nick Folk	PK	Arizona	178
6	Deon Anderson	FB	Connecticut	195
7	Courtney Brown	CB	Cal Poly	212
7	Alan Ball	CB	Illinois	237



help, too. Witten has some of the better hands on the team. Many are wondering what will happen with Anthony Fasano, who was a disappointment as a rookie. He lacked the physical or mental makeup to contribute right away, especially in an offense very similar to what he learned at Notre Dame. He must commit to blocking better and learning a new playbook in order to contribute more in his second season.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The team added Leonard Davis and re-signed OT Marc Colombo and C Andre Gurode for a total of more than \$32 million in guaranteed money. Now, they must produce. The line was a disappointment last season, though Gurode and Colombo fared well. Gurode is a very strong anchor who handled line calls well and got over his previous snapping problems. Colombo was perhaps the biggest surprise of the group, ably handling most ends well and showing good toughness and consistency. He's not dominant at the point of attack, but he's solid. Davis is the big question mark. The Cowboys clearly liked what they

saw, but he never really dominated for long stretches in Arizona. Davis will play at right guard, and scouts have said for years he's better-suited inside. At tackle the past two years, he has been extremely vulnerable to false-start penalties and allowing sacks, so the hope is that being closer to the ball will allow him to use his power best. OLT Flozell Adams has reached a flash point in his career in Dallas. His contract is up after this season, and he must bounce back after a subpar performance in '06. Adams did play better at season's end once he regained strength and agility from his torn ACL, suffered the year before. The hope is that he can return to his pre-injury form, when he was a pretty fierce run blocker. Kyle Kosier was just OK in replacing Larry Allen, showing decent technique but failing to match up against the stronger defensive tackles. OGS Cory Procter and Pat McQuistan are intriguing projects who caught the eye of Bill Parcells. They likely need more seasoning before they are ready to start. Third-round pick James Marten is a blue-collar mauler, and fourth-rounder Doug Free has OLT potential with his athleticism.

## Defense

There are differences between the 3-4 defense Bill Parcells ran and the one Wade Phillips brings to town. The "Phillips 3-4" is a more aggressive version — one that allowed the Chargers to produce 61 sacks in '06. Phillips and defensive coordinator Brian Stewart, his cohort in San Diego, will focus on getting more production up front by asking the line to two-gap less and slant more. Also, expect more blitzing and less leaving the secondary in two-deep coverage, which exposed some serious issues. This scheme could maximize the output of the defensive linemen, and it could turn OLB DeMarcus Ware into a superstar.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • NT Jason Ferguson is coming off a very strong season in which he re-established himself as a two-gap plugger against the run. He can be credited for much of the team's success in stopping opponents' inside power game and should hold up for another season's punishment of constant double teams. DEs Marcus Spears and Chris Canty have not played to expectations, though they have flashed very good ability. Spears has been an enigma. All signs pointed to him being a dominant five-technique in the mold of Patriots DE Richard Seymour, but he appeared lethargic at times. Expect Wade Phillips and Brian Stewart to try to light a fire under Spears, who plays an important spot on the strong side of the defense. Canty is tall and strong and plays with good lean, but his production fell off in his second season. He must learn to be more patient, not overplay and let things come to him. Jason Hatcher could challenge Canty for a starting spot. He showed intriguing potential as a pass rusher, but his technique is raw. The depth is a little suspect after that, with only Jay Ratliff, who provides a spark as a nickel DT, left in



## SCOUTING REPORT

reserve. NT Montavious Stanley did little as a rookie.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ DeMarcus Ware is on the verge of stardom if he isn't there already. He was explosive off the edge in the first part of the season, and though he was frustrated by the extra attention he received from blockers after Greg Ellis went down, Ware continued to ferociously attack upfield. Wade Phillips is expected to unleash Ware — and, eventually, first-rounder Anthony Spencer — in the same way he did Chargers OLBs Shawne Merriman and Shaun Phillips, who combined for 28½ sacks in '06. Ellis could be the bookend of a serious pass-rush tandem with Ware, as he was at the start of the season — his first as a stand-up 'backer — before suffering a torn Achilles tendon. If healthy, Ellis will start opposite Ware, but he could be replaced as an end by Spencer in the 4-3 nickel defense. Spencer has had little experience standing up, although he's very athletic.

Another scenario could involve a platoon on the strong side, with Ellis playing in passing spots and Bobby Carpenter handling running downs. Carpenter improved after a slow start as a rookie, showing a better understanding of responsibilities and enough punch against the run to match his great size, but it's not clear where he fits in best. ILB Akin Ayodele was the unsung hero. He had a strong first season in Dallas, able to split gaps inside and match up with guards physically. He made more plays than expected. Bradie James was not

as strong as he was in '05, struggling in pass coverage and failing to make as many big plays. Still, he's a solid tackler with good size who can handle the defensive calls. Kevin Burnett has failed to establish himself in the regular defense.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** - The team has played musical chairs at free safety since Darren Woodson retired, but now there appears to be a decent situation with Ken Hamlin and Pat Watkins competing. Hamlin previously has been a very solid player, though scouts say his play dropped off a notch following an off-field head injury. He will get every chance to win the job as the center fielder, allowing Roy Williams to play closer to the line. It's beginning to sound like a broken record, but Williams is a far better player up in the box. He had a team-high five interceptions, but he simply isn't good in zone coverage and shouldn't have been named to the Pro Bowl for a fourth time. He gives up a ton of big pass plays. Watkins also struggled to mask Williams' shortcomings and was a marked man as a rookie, but he has enough ball skills and size to warrant more looks. Another player who has been victimized a lot is RCB Anthony Henry, who hasn't played well since the first half of the '05 season. He was guilty of committing too many penalties and allowing big plays, though he has played hurt a lot. Terence Newman played at a Pro Bowl level last season and should be at the top of his game again with free agency on the horizon.

in '08. He allowed only two TDs, locking down high-profile receivers such as Steve Smith, Larry Fitzgerald and Santana Moss and only really struggling against Marvin Harrison. Newman is one of the best in the business but often flies under the radar. Aaron Glenn might only have a year or two left, and he's coming off ankle and knee surgeries, but he's an able third corner who works well in the slot. Keith Davis can hit, but like Williams, is a liability in coverage. Jacques Reeves and Nathan Jones are fine fourth and fifth corners.

## Special teams

P Mat McBriar owns perhaps the strongest leg in the NFL and showed improved touch and placement in making his first Pro Bowl. He was a key weapon in field-position battles. Both Terence Newman (punts) and Miles Austin (kickoffs) scored on returns, offsetting the potential loss of injured Tyson Thompson. PK Martin Gramatica fared well after taking over for Mike Vanderjagt at midseason, though he'll get competition from strong-legged sixth-rounder Nick Folk and former AFLer Carlos Martinez. Sam Hurd, Nathan Jones and Keith Davis are top cover guys.

## Summary

The success of this season ultimately will be judged on the improvements of Tony Romo under Jason Garrett and of the defense under Wade Phillips' watch. If Romo and the "D" play up to snuff, there's no question this team has the talent to make the playoffs — even without Bill Parcells.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	@JAX	WAS1L	@TOL	@PHI	NOU	LA1A	@CAR	@WASH	@ARI	N.D.	T.B.	@NYG	N.D.	@ATL	PHIL	DET	
Score	17-24	27-10	45-14	24-38	34-6	22-38	35-14	19-22	27-10	21-14	38-10	23-20	17-42	38-28	7-23	31-39	
Total net yards	323	367	396	320	354	379	414	378	434	342	435	365	347	352	201	365	5772
Rushing yards	88	138	217	146	170	69	156	111	126	117	137	110	116	94	83	58	1936
Passing yards	235	229	179	174	184	310	258	267	308	225	298	255	231	258	118	307	3836
Rushing plays	22	31	41	39	37	21	38	29	34	36	37	24	16	27	19	21	472
Sacks allowed	2	1	0	7	2	6	2	2	0	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	37
Had intercepted	3	0	1	3	0	4	1	0	0	1	0	2	2	1	2	1	21
Fumbles lost	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	9
Yards penalized	93	90	61	49	73	5	86	153	69	53	19	58	43	32	10	45	939
Punts	5	7	1	6	4	3	4	5	2	3	2	2	4	3	3	2	56

		OPPONENT STATISTICS															
Time of poss.***	34:12	28:05	27:26	23:01	24:46	32:29	21:44	28:32	27:45	26:18	22:43	33:21	37:11	26:39	37:06	32:07	28:58
Total net yards	307	245	229	383	232	328	204	300	295	335	211	396	536	376	426	362	5165
Rushing yards	78	93	78	52	34	155	76	117	86	88	101	126	159	127	204	85	1859
Passing yards	229	152	151	331	198	173	128	183	209	247	110	270	377	249	222	277	3506
Rushing plays	32	20	27	18	17	39	17	32	21	23	24	29	36	27	42	25	429
Sacks allowed	1	6	2	3	0	2	3	1	1	2	1	0	1	4	2	5	34
Had intercepted	1	1	2	0	2	1	1	0	2	2	2	0	0	2	1	1	18
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	13
Yards penalized	41	117	55	67	55	24	44	41	35	35	55	94	54	68	45	65	895
Punts	6	8	4	8	6	3	6	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	39

[illegible]

PASSING **																	
Bledsoe	16-33-3 246-1	19-38-0 237-2	13-20-1 179-2	18-38-3 223-0	17-28-0 168-2	7-12-1 111-0									90-169-8 1164-7		
Romo					2-2-0 35-1	14-25-3 227-2	24-36-1 270-1	24-36-0 284-2	20-29-0 308-2	19-23-1 226-0	22-29-0 306-5	20-34-2 257-0	16-33-2 249-1	22-29-1 278-2	14-29-2 142-1	23-32-1 321-2	220-337-13 2903-19

[illegible]

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Dallas Cowboys

Cowboys Center  
One Cowboys Parkway  
Irving, TX 75063  
972/556-9900  
Official Website: [www.dallascowboys.com](http://www.dallascowboys.com)  
Stadium: Texas Stadium  
Capacity: 65,595  
Playing surface: Real Grass by Sportfield  
2006 record: 9-7; Second in NFC East

Owner/president/general manager: Jerry Jones

COO/executive vice president: Stephen Jones; Vice president of college and pro scouting: Jeff Ireland

Head coach: Wade Phillips

Assistant coaches: Todd Bowles, secondary; Jason Garrett, offensive coordinator; John Garrett, tight ends; Joe Juraszek, strength and conditioning; Dat Nguyen, asst. linebackers/defensive quality control; Paul Pasqualoni, linebackers; Skip Peete, running backs; Wesley Phillips, offensive assistant/quality control; Bruce Read, special teams; Kacy Rodgers, defensive line; Ray Sherman, wide receivers; Tony Sparano, asst. head coach; Brian Stewart, defensive coordinator; Wade Wilson, quarterbacks.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

X-WR	<b>81 OWENS</b>	17 Hurd	19 Austin	Stanback*
OLT	<b>76 ADAMS</b>	77 McQuistan	Free*	
OLG	<b>63 KOSIER</b>	71 Procter		
C	<b>65 GURUDE</b>	67 Berger		
ORG	<b>70 L. DAVIS</b>	67 Berger		
ORT	<b>75 COLOMBO</b>	Marten*	69 Molinaro	
TE	<b>82 WITTEN</b>	88 Fasano	87 Thorn	
Z-WR	<b>83 T. GLENN</b>	84 Crayton	18 Richardson*	
QB	<b>9 ROMO</b>	14 Johnson	16 Baker	Stanback*
RB	<b>21 J. JONES</b>	24 Barber	28 Thompson	
FB	<b>46 HOYTE</b>	39 Polite	Anderson*	

### DEFENSE

DLE	<b>96 SPEARS</b>	72 Bowen		
NT	<b>95 FERGUSON</b>	90 Ratliff	60 Stanley	
DRE	<b>99 CANTY</b>	97 Hatcher		
LOLB	<b>98 ELLIS</b>	Spencer*	54 Carpenter	
LILB	<b>56 JAMES</b>	54 Carpenter		
RILB	<b>50 AYODELE</b>	54 Carpenter		
ROLB	<b>94 WARE</b>	57 Burnett	53 Glymph	
LCB	<b>41 NEWMAN</b>	26 A. Glenn	33 N. Jones	
RCB	<b>42 HENRY</b>	35 Reeves	Ball*	
SS	<b>31 WILLIAMS</b>	37 Elam		
FS	<b>27 HAMLIN</b>	25 Watkins	29 K. Davis	

### SPECIALISTS

P	<b>1 McBRIAR</b>			
PK	<b>7 GRAMATICA</b>	Folk*	3 Martinez	
H	<b>1 McBRIAR</b>	14 Johnson		
PR	<b>41 NEWMAN</b>	84 Crayton	26 A. Glenn	
KR	<b>19 AUSTIN</b>	37 Elam	28 Thompson	
LS	<b>91 LADOUCEUR</b>			

\* Rookie

## COWBOYS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
76	Adams, Flozell	OT	6-7	340	10	Michigan State	16/16
	Anderson, Deon	FB	5-10	236	R	Connecticut	
19	Austin, Miles	WR	6-3	215	2	Monmouth (N.J.)	9/0
50	Ayodele, Akin	LB	6-2	250	6	Purdue	16/16
92	Ayodele, Remi	DT	6-2	300	1	Oklahoma	0/0
16	Baker, Matt	QB	6-2	212	1	North Carolina	0/0
	Ball, Alan	CB	6-1	175	R	Illinois	
24	Barber, Marion	RB	6-0	220	3	Minnesota	16/1
	Berger, Joe	OG	6-5	305	2	Michigan Tech	
	Berlin, Brock	QB	6-1	215	1	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
19	Bilbo, Damarius	S	6-2	220	1	Georgia Tech	0/0
74	Bowen, Stephen	DE	6-5	300	2	Hofstra	1/0
	Brown, Courtney	CB	6-1	205	R	Cal Poly	
57	Burnett, Kevin	LB	6-3	240	3	Tennessee	16/0
36	Butler, Quincy	CB	6-1	190	1	Texas Christian	0/0
99	Canty, Chris	DE	6-7	300	3	Virginia	16/16
54	Carpenter, Bobby	LB	6-2	257	2	Ohio State	13/1
75	Colombo, Marc	OT	6-8	320	6	Boston College	16/16
84	Crayton, Patrick	WR	6-0	205	4	Northwestern Okla. St.	16/6
29	Davis, Keith	S	5-11	205	5	Sam Houston	15/6
70	Davis, Leonard	OG-OT	6-6	366	7	Texas	16/16
37	Elam, Abram	S	6-0	210	2	Kent State	15/0
98	Ellis, Greg	LB	6-6	270	10	North Carolina	9/9
88	Fasano, Anthony	TE	6-4	258	2	Notre Dame	16/4
95	Ferguson, Jason	DT	6-3	310	11	Georgia	16/16
	Folk, Nick	PK	6-1	225	R	Arizona	
	Free, Doug	OT	6-6	324	R	Northern Illinois	
26	Glenn, Aaron	CB	5-9	185	14	Texas A&M	16/1
83	Glenn, Terry	WR	5-11	195	12	Ohio State	15/14
53	Glymph, Junior	LB	6-6	272	4	Carson-Newman	3/0
7	Gramatica, Martin	PK	5-8	175	8	Kansas State	8/0
65	Gurude, Andre	C	6-4	312	6	Colorado	16/16
27	Hamlin, Ken	S	6-2	209	5	Arkansas	16/16
97	Hatcher, Jason	DE	6-6	295	2	Grambling	14/0
42	Henry, Anthony	CB	6-1	208	7	South Florida	16/16
46	Hoyle, Oliver	FB-LB	6-3	250	2	North Carolina State	12/6
17	Hurd, Sam	WR	6-2	195	2	Northern Illinois	15/2
56	James, Bradie	LB	6-2	250	5	LSU	16/16
14	Johnson, Brad	QB	6-5	225	16	Florida State	15/14
21	Jones, Julius	RB	5-10	211	4	Notre Dame	16/16
33	Jones, Nathan	CB	5-10	192	4	Rutgers	5/0
63	Kosier, Kyle	OG	6-5	305	6	Arizona State	16/16
91	Ladouceur, L.P.	LS	6-4	255	3	California	16/0
	Marten, James	OT	6-7	309	R	Boston College	
3	Martinez, Carlos	PK	5-8	180	1	Buena Vista (Iowa)	0/0
1	McBriar, Mat	P	6-1	223	4	Hawaii	16/0
77	McQuistan, Pat	OL	6-6	315	2	Weber State	1/0
69	Molinaro, Jim	OT	6-6	310	4	Notre Dame	1/0
41	Newman, Terence	CB	5-11	195	5	Kansas State	16/16
81	Owens, Terrell	WR	6-3	224	12	Tenn.-Chattanooga	16/16
39	Polite, Lousaka	FB	6-0	248	3	Pittsburgh	12/0
	Proctor, Cory	OG	6-4	305	2	Montana	
90	Ratliff, Jay	DE	6-4	305	3	Auburn	15/0
18	Richardson, Jamel	WR	6-3	220	R	Victor Valley C.C.	
85	Rector, Jamaica	WR	5-10	186	2	Northwest Missouri St.	1/0
35	Reeves, Jacques	CB	5-11	192	4	Purdue	13/0
62	Rivera, Marco	OG	6-4	309	12	Penn State	16/16
9	Romo, Tony	QB	6-2	225	5	Eastern Illinois	16/8
45	Saldi, John	LB	6-5	245	1	Texas Tech	0/0
96	Spears, Marcus	DE	6-4	298	3	LSU	16/16
	Spencer, Anthony	LB-DE	6-3	261	R	Purdue	
	Stanback, Isaiah	WR-QB	6-2	216	R	Washington	
60	Stanley, Montavious	DT	6-2	313	2	Louisville	3/0
28	Thompson, Tyson	RB	6-1	220	3	San Jose State	7/0
87	Thorn, Andy	TE	6-5	250	1	Northern Iowa	0/0
15	Urban, Jerheme	WR	6-3	212	3	Trinity (Tex.)	0/0
94	Ware, DeMarcus	LB	6-4	257	3	Troy State	16/16
25	Watkins, Patrick	S	6-5	211	2	Florida State	14/9
31	Williams, Roy	S	6-0	229	6	Oklahoma	16/16
82	Witten, Jason	TE	6-5	265	5	Tennessee	16/15

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	N.Y. Giants	8:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Miami	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Chicago	8:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	St. Louis	1 p.m.
Oct. 8	at Buffalo	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 14	New England	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 21	Minnesota	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	BYE	
Nov. 4	at Philadelphia	8:15 p.m.
Nov. 11	at N.Y. Giants	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	Washington	1 p.m.
Nov. 22	N.Y. Jets	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 29	Green Bay	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Detroit	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Philadelphia	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 22	at Carolina	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Washington	1 p.m.

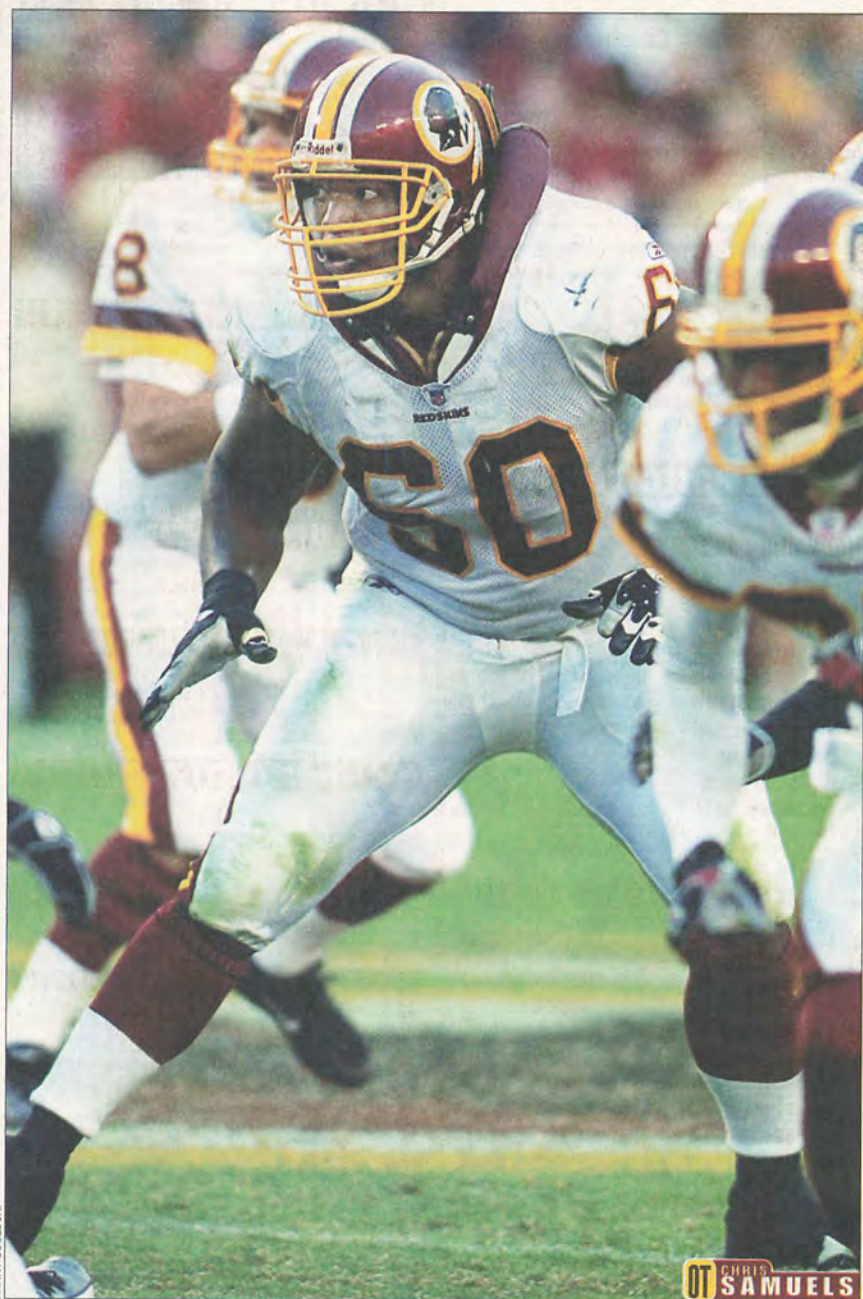
## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Dallas

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Jacksonville	(-1.5)	17-24
Sept. 17	Washington	(-7)	27-10
Sept. 24	BYE		
Oct. 1	At Tennessee	(-10)	45-14
Oct. 8	At Philadelphia	(+1)	24-38
Oct. 15	Houston	(-13)	34-6
Oct. 23	New York Giants	(-3)	22-36
Oct. 29	At Carolina	(+4)	35-14
Nov. 5	At Washington	(-3)	19-22
Nov. 12	At Arizona	(-8.5)	27-10
Nov. 19	Indianapolis	(+1)	21-14
Nov. 23	Tampa Bay	(-12.5)	38-10
Dec. 3	At New York Giants	(-3)	23-20
Dec. 10	New Orleans	(-7.5)	17-42
Dec. 16	At Atlanta	(-4)	38-28
Dec. 25	Philadelphia	(-6.5)	7-23
Dec. 31	Detroit	(-13.5)	31-39
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 6	At Seattle	(+1.5)	20-21



# WASHINGTON REDSKINS



HARRY SCULL JR.

OT CHRIS SAMUELS

PREDICTED RECORD: **7-9** 3rd place / NFC East

If ever there was an example of the Seven Deadly Sins — most notably greed and pride — manifesting themselves in an NFL team, it was in the 2006 Redskins.

Coming off a 10-win season and a playoff win, the team mortgaged its draft picks and went for the big kill, signing four big-money free agents. But the flaw in that that approach was clear right away when the team encountered depth problems exposed by injuries across the board. The team did dial things down this

offseason, focusing more on its needs and less on making a splash. There also has been a growing concern over making this thing work, considering the money the team has invested in a rock-star coaching staff and a recognizable roster.

With the ball in Jason Campbell's hands from the outset and a fearsome 1-2 punch at running back, there is genuine hope that the offense will succeed. And the defense, which fell way off last season, can only improve.

## Offense

Al Saunders' and Joe Gibbs' philosophies differed more than observers expected, so

the team has spent the offseason identifying what elements of the power-run game and the deep-passing attack it wants to use most. Saunders, some say, made the offense too wide open and too difficult to comprehend. Gibbs perhaps wanted to rely too much on a smashmouth style. Finding a middle ground is paramount as these men reach the flash point of their careers and of this team's makeup as we know it. Expect better communication and a more simplified approach this time around.

**QUARTERBACKS** • The team finally got a look at Jason Campbell, the 25th overall pick in the 2005 draft, and it liked what it saw. He possesses a great pocket presence, stands up to pressure well and can sling it





around a little. Campbell was not afraid to throw the ball over the middle, but with his inexperience, he also made some forgettable throws into coverage. The belief is that he'll only get better with a full off-season as the starter and with an extra year in a complex offense. Backup Mark Brunell restructured his contract to stay and is a favorite of Joe Gibbs, but he struggled as a starter in '06, going 3-6. Brunell actually played better than that record indicates, but he's coming off major shoulder surgery this off-season and could be limited early in camp. Though he lacks some zip on his fastball, Brunell still has the smarts and know-how to help this team. Todd Collins is the ideal veteran No. 3. He knows this offense inside and out and is better than some backups around the league.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Many believe Clinton Portis returned too soon from a dislocated shoulder he suffered in the preseason, and his regular season ended early when he broke his hand. He is expected back at full strength, and the potential is there for a big season. But there's always the concern that Al Saunders will struggle to feed both Portis and Ladell Betts to their liking. Portis clearly is the more gifted runner, and he has shown good toughness running inside as well as outside on his favorite stretch plays. But there will be a chance for Betts to gain a niche in this offense, especially considering his five straight 100-yard games and 128.3-yard average over the final six contests.

He had been a third-down back previously, but Betts showed improved shiftiness, better concentration and excellent receiving skills. Saunders likes to get a feel for his runners' rhythm during games, and he struggled at times to do so with Portis occasionally removing himself from games; there will be an adjustment period in the beginning. Rock Cartwright is an excellent third back, and Mike Sellers is a dominant lead blocker who has handled the move to fullback very well.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Santana Moss was hindered by a nagging hamstring injury, and fell nearly 700 receiving yards from his breakout '05 season, but he finished strong with some big plays, so there's little concern about him bouncing back. He's one of the most dangerous men in the NFL with the ball in his hands, able to turn a bubble screen into a score. Moss has great hands and concentration and should be a force again with Jason Campbell getting a full season's work. The second-best receiving option is TE Chris Cooley, who has good hands, sneaky quickness and a good understanding of how to get open. He remains a bit forgotten at times, but given a relatively lackluster WR corps and Cooley's consistency, you can bet he'll get the ball more often. WR Antwaan Randle El struggled to carve out a defined role and was not a big-play threat at all. Most of his work was done underneath, and he showed little ability to get away from traffic. The coaching staff barely used him on gadget plays, which was surprising given his excellent variety of skills. Brandon Lloyd was a major

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
 **CLINTON PORTIS**  
**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
 **LONDON FLETCHER**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
**LB ROCKY MCINTOSH**  
 He took some time to digest the scheme fully, but McIntosh looked pretty good when he finally got reps with the first-team defense.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
**OLG:**  
**TODD WADE VS. THE FIELD**  
 There isn't a player — including Wade, Will Whitticker, Taylor Whitley and Mike Pucillo — who can be projected as a 16-game starter.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
 OT Jason Fabini, MLB London Fletcher, CB David Macklin, CB Fred Smoot, S Omar Stoutmire, OL Ross Tucker.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
 SS Adam Archuleta, OG Derrick Dockery, RB T.J. Duckett, TE Christian Fauria, PK John Hall, OT Jim Molinaro, WR David Patten, CB Troy Vincent, CB Kenny Wright.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	LaRon Landry	FS	LSU	6
5	Dallas Sartz	OLB	USC	143
6	H.B. Blades	ILB	Pittsburgh	179
6	Jordan Palmer	QB	UTEP	205
7	Tyler Ecker	TE	Michigan	216



bust in his Washington debut. His lack of maturity was a major issue, and he clashed with the coaching staff on numerous occasions. Lloyd's meager output (23 catches, no TDs) and astronomical contract mean he must make major improvements to stick around. James Thrash is a consummate pro who is an able fourth receiver and a quality special-teamer. Mike Espy will get a crack at winning a roster spot with his effort and speed. Todd Yoder is listed as the primary blocking tight end, but rookie Tyler Ecker could win that job.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The biggest hole, literally and figuratively, is at left guard. Massive Derrick Dockery took the money and ran to Buffalo, and the cast of characters aiming to replace him lacks a little oomph. There has been serious talk about reserve Todd Wade moving inside from tackle, and some Redskins defenders said he was tougher to face in practice than ORT Jon Jansen. But Wade has been injury-prone with knee issues and never has played guard.

At 6-8, he'd be the league's tallest interior lineman. Mike Pucillo was used as an extra blocker in short-yardage packages and is just a guy. Will Whitticker and Taylor Whitley both have previous starting experience, with Green Bay and Miami, respectively, but neither appears to be anything special. The good news is that the other four spots are far more set. OLT Chris Samuels might battle knee problems every year, but he's a premier pass blocker, which is important with a young signalcaller. He's also a much-improved run blocker. Jansen played through pain all season with a torn calf muscle, and struggled because of it, but he managed to shut down Panthers DE Julius Peppers and is considered one of the offensive leaders. ORG Randy Thomas bounced back from a broken leg to have an excellent season. He allowed only half a sack, committed just two penalties and remains one of the NFL's more powerful guards. C Casey Rabach showed his toughness, playing with a broken thumb, but has physical limitations. Still, he battles hard and is a pretty good glue for the line. Jason Fabini will get a crack at winning a reserve OT spot.

## Defense

The defensive collapse had equal parts blame: injuries, player defection, scheme and internal strife. Observers say coordinator Gregg Williams, who directed top-10 units in his first two seasons here, became arrogant and predictable in his calls by playing a base cover-2 defense — even in running situations — and blitzing too much on third downs. The result was a 31st-ranked "D" that set an NFL record for the fewest turnovers (12) in a 16-game season. Adding MLB London Fletcher and re-acquiring CB Fred Smoot should help tighten things up, but the line must play better for Williams to run what he wants.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Andre Carter had a tough season but finished strong with four sacks in the final five games. He has the burst to be a 10-sack end but isn't a great run defender, especially when teams run at him. Also, the coaches too often called stunts that tied him up against stronger guards. Carter was flanked by DT Kedric Golston, one of the few pleasant surprises. Though he leveled off, Golston was strong vs. the run and displayed flashes of power. Cornelius Griffin, the team's best lineman the previous two seasons, fell off with a hip injury. He no longer commanded double teams and didn't make as many plays in the backfield. DE Phillip Daniels was held back by ankle and wrist injuries and finished the season playing on pure guts. He lost much of his power, blaming the team's weight program, and may no longer be a legitimate pass-rush threat. If Daniels can regain his strength, he can help as a base end against the run. Renaldo Wynn could figure in as a reserve capable of playing multiple spots, but his salary is prohibitive. DE Demetric Evans and DT Anthony Montgomery are decent backups, though Montgomery must contin-



McIntosh entered the lineup, he looked decent and showed he could use his strength well. One knock was that he was slow to pick up the scheme and might not be very instinctive. SLB Marcus Washington was solid but didn't make a ton of big plays and suffered from a knee injury that ended his season early. One area in which he excelled was pass coverage, where he looked fluid. Rookies Dallas Sartz and H.B. Blades add depth.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Last year, Shawn Springs got hurt, Sean Taylor looked hesitant, Carlos Rogers lacked confidence and Adam Archuleta was a flame-out. Springs is the team's best cover guy, but he was beset by pelvis, hamstring and shoulder injuries

that put his long-term durability in doubt. He doesn't support the run much anymore and can get caught napping in coverage, but when healthy, Springs can control good wideouts. Rogers had some fine moments but also struggled noticeably. He needs a shorter memory after getting beat so one bad play doesn't lead to a bad game. Rogers' physical abilities suggest he could be a fine corner, but he must master the mental part. Archuleta was traded to the Bears, so there's no reason to think that No. 6 overall draft pick LaRon Landry won't start next to Taylor. How their roles will be defined needs to be ironed out, as the two players have some similarities, but the Redskins have two big, aggressive, rangy safeties to patrol a secondary that gave up a lot of big plays in '06. Neither have great ball skills, but they offer Gregg Williams tantalizing potential for blitzes and coverages. The fact that Taylor made the Pro Bowl was a joke; he did not play well in '06. Scouts say he played with less anticipation and aggression than he had before, missed too many tackles and was not strong in coverage. He is a physical marvel but needs to trust Landry and get back to reading the quarterback, not the receivers' routes. Pierson Prioleau, Omar Stoutmire and Vernon Fox are able backups. Prioleau would have started in '06 had he not suffered a season-ending ACL injury on the year's opening kickoff. Nickel CB Fred Smoot

should re-acclimate himself quickly and might be a better fit in the slot. He struggled the last two years in Minnesota. Free-agent

pickup David Macklin is generously listed at 5-10 but plays bigger than that. He's a tough, cover-2 corner who represents an upgrade over Kenny Wright, who left after one season. CB Ade Jimoh and SS Reed Doughty are good special-teamers but limited on defense.

## Special teams

With all the turnover the team has had at kicker, it will be interesting to see how PK Shaun Suisham fares. He did well (8-of-9) down the stretch and knocked his kickoffs deep. P Derrick Frost had his best season to date after finally putting some air under his punts. LS Ethan Albright might not have had a bad snap in his career.

**B** Antwaan Randle El was solid but unpredictable as a punt returner, and Rock Cartwright was very good on kickoffs. Danny Smith coaches this group well, and guys such as James Thrash, Khary Campbell and Vernon Fox make the coverage units strong.

## Summary

The Redskins have taken a quieter approach, which shows they are realizing they can't buy a title, but the team's depth is still in question. There is talent here for sure, and injuries did play a big part in the team's failures. Big seasons out of Jason Campbell and Clinton Portis could help get the club back in the hunt, but the defense must get back to the '04 and '05 standards for this group to reach the post-season.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
	MDL	@BAIL	@HOU	JAX	@NAS	TOL	@IND	DAL	@PHI	@TB	CAR	ATL	PHI	@NO	@STL	N.Y.C	
Score	16-19	10-27	31-15	36-30	3-19	22-25	22-36	22-19	3-27	17-20	17-13	14-24	19-21	16-10	31-37	28-34	
Total net yards	266	245	495	481	164	305	325	300	278	252	253	381	415	354	336	393	5243
Rushing yards	103	93	234	152	78	125	114	117	146	59	143	177	210	161	176	128	2216
Passing yards	163	152	261	329	86	180	211	183	132	193	110	204	205	193	160	265	3027
Rushing plays	25	20	41	40	20	26	24	32	31	21	37	35	40	31	38	29	490
Sacks allowed	0	6	0	0	3	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	0	1	19
Had intercepted	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	1	10
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	7
Yards penalized	55	117	126	40	35	46	91	41	70	19	40	30	68	15	58	100	951
Punts	5	8	2	5	5	7	4	4	6	5	8	5	3	5	7	3	82
OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	31:44	31:55	21:33	24:32	34:47	35:40	29:06	31:28	30:29	36:01	30:46	28:22	22:14	30:23	33:01	28:04	30:00
Total net yards	309	367	261	307	411	344	452	378	400	359	264	369	263	270	579	355	5688
Rushing yards	86	138	61	32	155	193	110	111	145	181	101	256	99	71	197	261	2197
Passing yards	223	229	200	275	256	151	342	267	255	178	163	113	164	199	382	94	3491
Rushing plays	34	31	18	16	36	42	25	29	34	42	25	41	22	24	39	34	492
Sacks allowed	1	1	1	4	0	3	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	19
Had intercepted	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	6
Fumbles lost	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	6
Yards penalized	60	90	57	35	76	51	27	153	65	35	40	60	20	16	30	41	856
Punts	5	7	4	5	2	7	2	5	5	3	8	5	5	6	6	4	79
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Betts	8-22-0	11-40-0	16-124-1	11-37-0	1-2-0	2-(-2)-0	10-52-0	3-8-0	20-83-0	7-18-0	24-104-0	28-155-1	33-171-0	22-119-0	29-129-2	20-92-0	245-1154-4
J. Campbell		5-24-0							2-16-0	6-6-0	4-7-0	2-15-0	4-38-0	4-4-0	1-7-0	3-30-0	24-107-0
Duckett									5-28-0	7-24-0	4-9-0	3-1-0	4-18-0	5-18-1	3-(-4)-1		38-132-2
Portis	10-39-1		16-86-2	27-112-1	19-76-0	14-58-2	12-43-0	23-84-1	6-25-0								127-523-7
Randle El	2-7-0	1-(-5)-0	1-7-0	2-3-0		2-18-0	2-19-0	1-9-0	2-23-0	1-3-0	1-(-5)-0	1-(-2)-0		1-20-0	2-21-0		19-118-0
Sellers						3-15-0		3-12-0		2-6-0	1-13-0				1-1-0	2-4-0	12-51-0
PASSING **																	
Brunell	17-28-0 163-0	18-32-1 197-0	24-27-0 261-1	18-30-1 329-3	12-22-0 109-0	16-30-1 180-1	27-37-0 226-2	14-23-0 192-1	16-31-1 132-0								162-260-4 1789-8
J. Campbell										19-34-0 196-2	11-23-1 118-2	18-38-2 217-1	15-27-2 182-1	13-28-0 204-1	13-26-0 160-1	21-31-1 220-2	110-207-6 1297-10
Randle El									0-1-0 0-0				1-1-0 40-0			1-1-0 48-1	2-3-0 88-1
RECEIVING																	
Betts	3-31-0	7-57-0	3-27-0	1-4-0	2-15-0	2-18-0	5-41-0	3-30-0	4-8-0	5-48-0	2-4-0	3-18-0	2-14-0	3-43-0	2-35-0	6-52-1	53-445-1
Cooley	2-(-3)-0	1-23-0	4-16-0	4-70-0	4-41-0	2-27-1	4-42-1	3-86-1	3-39-0	5-58-1	3-89-1	2-12-0	4-46-0	4-80-0	7-77-1	5-49-0	57-734-6
Lloyd		1-6-0	2-20-0	3-49-0		1-52-0	4-37-0	2-26-0	2-47-0	2-24-0	1-8-0	2-26-0	1-40-0	2-30-0			23-365-0
Moss	3-69-0	4-69-0	6-50-0	4-138-3	3-39-0	5-50-0	3-20-0		3-17-0		3-12-0	7-123-0	2-34-0	3-37-1	3-29-0	6-103-1	55-790-6
Portis	2-11-0		2-78-0	2-28-0		5-17-0	4-21-0	1-9-0	1-6-0								17-170-0
Randle El	5-34-0	2-8-0	3-34-1	2-23-0	2-10-0	1-16-0	3-42-0			1-14-0	1-4-1	2-14-0	6-85-1	1-14-0		3-53-0	32-351-3
Sellers	1-2-0	2-28-0	3-9-0	1-6-0			2-5-0	2-9-0	2-18-0	1-2-0		1-12-0	1-3-0			2-11-1	18-105-1
Thrash	1-19-0				1-4-0		2-18-1	3-52-0		4-46-0		1-12-0					12-151-1

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Washington Redskins

21300 Redskins Park Drive  
Ashburn, VA 20147  
703/726-7000  
Official Website: www.redskins.com  
Stadium: FedExField  
Capacity: 91,704  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 5-11; Fourth in NFC East

Joe Gibbs

**Owner:** Daniel M. Snyder; **Chief operating officer:** Mitch Gershman; **Vice president of football operations:** Vinny Cerrato; **Director of pro personnel:** Louis Riddick; **Director of college scouting:** Scott Campbell

**Team president/head coach:** Joe Gibbs

**Assistant coaches:** Greg Blache, *defensive coordinator/defensive line*; Don Breaux, *offensive coordinator*; Joe Bugel, *asst. head coach-offense*; Jack Burns, *offensive assistant*; Earnest Byner, *running backs*; Bobby Crumpler, *asst. strength/conditioning*; Jerry Gray, *secondary/cornerbacks*; John Hastings, *head strength/conditioning*; Stan Hixon, *wide receivers*; Steve Jackson, *passing-game coordinator/safeties*; Bill Khayat, *quality control-offense*; Bill Lazor, *quarterbacks*; Kirk Olivadotti, *linebackers*; Al Saunders, *associate head coach-offense*; Bob Saunders, *asst. coach-special projects*; Matthew Shea, *quality control-defense*; Rennie Simmons, *tight ends*; Danny Smith, *special teams*; Tony Spinoso, *asst. strength/conditioning*; Gregg Williams, *asst. head coach-defense*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

WR <b>89 MOSS</b>	83 Thrash	11 Espy	
OLT <b>60 SAMUELS</b>	75 Armstrong		
OLG <b>74 WADE</b>	72 Whitley	63 Whitticker	62 Pucillo
C <b>61 RABACH</b>	68 Tucker		
ORG <b>77 THOMAS</b>	62 Pucillo		
ORT <b>76 JAKSEN</b>	69 Fabini	74 Wade	
TE <b>47 COOLEY</b>	87 Yoder	Ecker*	84 Edwards
WR <b>82 RANDLE EL</b>	85 Lloyd		
QB <b>17 J. CAMPBELL</b>	8 Brunell	15 Collins	Palmer*
RB <b>26 PORTIS</b>	46 Betts	31 Cartwright	30 Broughton
FB <b>45 SELLERS</b>			

### DEFENSE

DLE <b>93 DANIELS</b>	97 Wynn	91 Green	
DLT <b>96 GRIFFIN</b>	95 Salave'a	73 Boschetti	
DRT <b>64 GOLSTON</b>	94 Montgomery	74 Clauss	
DRE <b>99 CARTER</b>	92 Evans		
SLB <b>53 WASHINGTON</b>	50 K. Campbell	Sartz*	
MLB <b>59 FLETCHER</b>	98 Marshall	Blades*	
WLB <b>52 McINTOSH</b>	98 Marshall	59 Trucks	
LCB <b>24 SPRINGS</b>	27 Smoot	34 Eubanks	
RCB <b>22 ROGERS</b>	38 Macklin	32 Jimoh	
SS <b>21 TAYLOR</b>	20 Prioleau	39 Fox	
FS <b>LANDRY*</b>	23 Stoutmire	37 Doughty	

### SPECIALISTS

P <b>4 FROST</b>			
PK <b>6 SUISHAM</b>			
H <b>4 FROST</b>			
PR <b>82 RANDLE EL</b>	83 Thrash		
KR <b>31 CARTWRIGHT</b>	83 Thrash		
LS <b>71 ALBRIGHT</b>			

\* Rookie

## REDSKINS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/OS
71	Albright, Ethan	LS	6-5	265	14	North Carolina	16/0
79	Alexander, Lorenzo	DT	6-1	301	1	California	0/0
75	Armstrong, Calvin	OT	6-7	325	1	Washington State	0/0
46	Betts, Ladell	RB	5-10	223	6	Iowa	16/9
	Blades, H.B.	LB	5-10	236	R	Pittsburgh	
19	Bonner, Cedric	WR	5-11	181	1	Texas A&M-Commerce	0/0
73	Boschetti, Ryan	DT	6-4	305	4	UCLA	2/0
5	Bramlet, Casey	QB	6-4	225	1	Wyoming	0/0
30	Broughton, Nehemiah	FB	5-11	255	3	The Citadel	2/0
8	Brunell, Mark	QB	6-1	217	15	Washington	10/9
17	Campbell, Jason	QB	6-4	228	3	Auburn	7/7
50	Campbell, Khary	LB	6-3	232	6	Bowling Green	14/1
99	Carter, Andre	DE	6-4	265	7	California	16/16
39	Carter, Kerry	RB	6-1	238	3	Stanford	0/0
31	Cartwright, Rock	RB	5-7	215	6	Kansas State	16/0
74	Clauss, Jared	DT	6-4	290	3	Iowa	0/0
15	Collins, Todd	QB	6-4	228	12	Michigan	0/0
47	Cooley, Chris	TE	6-3	265	4	Utah State	16/16
35	Cox, Chip	S	5-9	190	1	Ohio	0/0
93	Daniels, Phillip	DE	6-3	290	12	Georgia	16/15
37	Doughty, Reed	S	6-1	210	2	Northern Colorado	10/0
	Ecker, Tyler	TE	6-6	251	R	Michigan	
84	Edwards, Eric	TE	6-5	257	3	LSU	0/0
11	Espy, Mike	WR	5-11	195	1	Mississippi	1/0
34	Eubanks, John	CB	5-10	173	1	Southern Miss	1/0
62	Evans, Demetric	DE	6-3	285	6	Georgia	16/0
69	Fabini, Jason	OL	6-7	309	10	Cincinnati	15/0
59	Fletcher, London	LB	5-10	245	10	John Carroll	16/16
39	Fox, Vernon	S	5-10	200	6	Fresno State	16/6
	Fredrickson, Tyler	PK	6-3	220	1	California	0/0
4	Frost, Derrick	P	6-4	208	4	Northern Iowa	16/0
64	Golston, Kedric	DT	6-4	292	2	Georgia	16/11
91	Green, Jamaal	DE	6-2	258	2	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
96	Griffin, Cornelius	DT	6-3	310	8	Alabama	14/14
12	Harris, Steven	WR	5-10	183	1	Arkansas	0/0
18	Hoag, Ryan	WR	6-2	200	1	Gustavus Adolphus	0/0
76	Jansen, Jon	OT	6-6	308	9	Michigan	15/15
32	Jimoh, Ade	CB	6-1	190	5	Utah State	16/0
	Landry, LaRon	S	6-0	213	R	LSU	
67	Lefotu, Kili	OL	6-5	315	1	Arizona	0/0
85	Lloyd, Brandon	WR	6-0	192	5	Illinois	15/12
38	Macklin, David	CB	5-10	206	8	Penn State	14/7
90	Manupuna, Vaka	DT	6-0	300	1	Colorado	0/0
98	Marshall, Lemar	LB	6-2	232	6	Michigan State	15/15
52	McIntosh, Rocky	LB	6-2	231	2	Miami (Fla.)	16/1
94	Montgomery, Anthony	DT	6-5	305	2	Minnesota	5/1
89	Moss, Santana	WR	5-10	190	7	Miami (Fla.)	14/14
	Palmer, Jordan	QB	6-6	231	R	UTEP	
41	Pippens, Jerrell	S	6-3	200	2	Nebraska	0/0
26	Portis, Clinton	RB	5-11	212	6	Miami (Fla.)	8/7
20	Prioleau, Pierson	S	5-11	188	8	Virginia Tech	1/0
62	Pucillo, Mike	OL	6-4	311	5	Auburn	12/0
61	Rabach, Casey	C	6-4	295	6	Wisconsin	16/16
82	Randle El, Antwaan	WR	5-10	192	6	Indiana	16/16
22	Rogers, Carlos	CB	6-0	195	3	Auburn	15/15
95	Salave'a, Joe	DT	6-3	317	9	Arizona	13/5
60	Samuels, Chris	OT	6-5	310	8	Alabama	16/16
	Sartz, Dallas	LB	6-4	235	R	USC	
45	Sellers, Mike	FB	6-3	278	8	Walla Walla (C.C.)	16/6
71	Shaw, Bryant	DE	6-3	287	1	Mississippi College	0/0
27	Smoot, Fred	CB	5-11	178	7	Mississippi State	14/11
24	Springs, Shawn	CB	6-0	200	11	Ohio State	9/8
23	Stoutmire, Omar	S	5-11	205	11	Fresno State	13/9
6	Suisham, Shaun	PK	6-0	205	3	Bowling Green	8/0
78	Sykes, Joe	DE	6-2	266	1	Southern	1/0
21	Taylor, Sean	S	6-2	232	4	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
77	Thomas, Randy	OG	6-5	310	9	Mississippi State	16/16
83	Thrash, James	WR	6-0	205	11	Missouri Southern	16/0
29	Torrence, Leigh	CB	6-0	183	1	Stanford	0/0
59	Trucks, Anthony	LB	6-1	230	1	Oregon	0/0
68	Tucker, Ross	OL	6-4	310	5	Princeton	0/0
74	Wade, Todd	OL	6-8	317	8	Mississippi	2/1
53	Washington, Marcus	LB	6-3	250	8	Auburn	14/14
72	Whitley, Taylor	OL	6-4	305	5	Texas A&M	0/0
63	Whitticker, Will	OL	6-5	325	2	Michigan State	0/0
77	Wilson, Chris	DE	6-4	240	1	Northwood	0/0
97	Wynn, Renaldo	DE	6-3	292	11	Notre Dame	15/1
87	Yoder, Todd	TE	6-4	262	8	Vanderbilt	14/0

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Miami	1 p.m.
Sept. 17	at Philadelphia	8:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	N.Y. Giants	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	BYE	
Oct. 7	Detroit	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Green Bay	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	Arizona	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	at New England	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 4	at N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Dallas	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	Buffalo	1 p.m.
Dec. 6	Chicago	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 16	at N.Y. Giants	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 23	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	Dallas	1 p.m.

\* Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Washington

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 11	Minnesota	(-4)	16-19
Sept. 17	At Dallas	(+7)	10-27
Sept. 24	At Houston	(-3.5)	31-15
Oct. 1	Jacksonville	(+2.5)	36-30*
Oct. 8	At New York Giants	(+6)	3-19
Oct. 15	Tennessee	(-12.5)	22-25
Oct. 22	At Indianapolis	(+8)	22-36
Oct. 29	BYE		
Nov. 5	Dallas	(+3)	22-19
Nov. 12	At Philadelphia	(+8)	3-27
Nov. 19	At Tampa Bay	(+3)	17-20
Nov. 26	Carolina	(+6)	17-13
Dec. 3	Atlanta	(-1.5)	14-24
Dec. 10	Philadelphia	(+2.5)	19-21
Dec. 17	At New Orleans	(+9.5)	16-10
Dec. 24	At St. Louis	(+2)	31-37*
Dec. 30	New York Giants	(+1.5)	28-34

\* OVERTIME



# NEW YORK GIANTS



TOM BERG

MICHAEL STRAHAN

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **6-10** 4th place /  
NFC East

The big shakeup that everyone expected at season's end — including Tom Coughlin's rumored dismissal — never happened.

Something few saw coming — the release of OLT Luke Petitgout and LB LaVar Arrington — kicked off Jerry Reese's tenure as GM.

It wasn't quite the excitement many expected out of the team, but it's clear that fireworks could be on the horizon.

Coughlin must produce in what could be his final season. Eli Manning, entering his third full year of starting,

must show major improvement. Michael Strahan, perhaps following Tiki Barber's lead, could walk into the sunset after

2007, too. Some feel the team's narrow window might have shut already.

It's not all doom and gloom, but there is a sense of win-or-else that will affect Coughlin the most. Though sources say he hasn't lost the players just yet, it's clear his style hasn't won over their hearts, either. If things don't go well on the field, big changes appear very close behind.

## Offense

The offense showed more fluidity in Kevin Gilbride's two games calling plays at season's end, and the team is hopeful that he and new QB coach Chris Palmer will continue Eli Manning's progress. The team has the tools to run a solid power run game with the

RB duo of Brandon Jacobs and Reuben Droughns. Gilbride traditionally has favored pairing the between-the-tackles run game with a vertical attack to tilt the field. The hope is that opposing defenses cheat up safeties if the run is working or keep them back if the deep pass is clicking.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Let's start with the good. Eli Manning possesses a strong arm, quickly identifies blitzes and can loft soft jump balls — usually to Plaxico Burress — with the best of them. Manning has nice size, a natural feel for the game and a cool demeanor. But his streakiness has been a real detriment to an offense that has looked alternately dominant and dormant the past two seasons. Many blame Manning's sloppy



mechanics, like throwing off his back foot, and decision-making for the team's inconsistencies. He must show marked improvement in critical situations, when he tends to lose focus, work on his accuracy and cut back on the number of balls he tries to squeeze into tiny windows. He's backed up by Anthony Wright, who is expected to beat out Tim Hasselbeck. Wright is short and mistake-prone but also athletic and capable of big plays in a pinch. Hasselbeck is in danger of being cut in favor of Jared Lorenzen, who offers intrigue but isn't good enough to start.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Replacing Tiki Barber is nearly impossible given his diverse skill set, but the team will streamline its running game with a focus on implementing more power. That should work just fine with holdover Brandon Jacobs, who is the league's biggest running back at 6-4 and nearly 260 pounds, as well as Reuben Droughns, who is effective between the tackles. Jacobs has shown great power as a short-yardage runner, totalling 16 TDs on 134 career carries, but that style often leads to some hearty collisions. He improved his pad level in his second season but always will be an upright runner because of his height. One general manager loves Jacobs' leg drive and explosion but wonders if he will burn out in a few years because of how much contact he absorbs. Droughns fell off last season, showing far less of the spring he did in 2005. He's best in a tandem, which works well with the Giants' situation, and he's tough, physical and durable, though he has worn down in each of his pro seasons by December. Where the Giants might miss Barber most is on third downs. He was an underrated pass blocker, one of the best pass-catching backs in team history, and could turn a 3rd-and-long draw into a first down. No back on the roster now can do that. Derrick Ward is nothing special as a third back, though keep an eye on Ryan Grant, who caught the staff's eye on the practice squad before getting hurt. FB Jim Finn is an adequate blocker but might be too small for this offense.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Jeremy Shockey is one of the more gifted receiving tight ends, combining ferocious after-the-catch toughness with fairly soft hands. He creates matchup problems in man coverage because he's too big for most safeties and can outrun linebackers. Yet he drops some catchable passes, can't always settle underneath in zones and doesn't dominate as a blocker. The team also must deal with Shockey's outspoken nature, which threatens to undermine the staff. He either will be backed up by fifth-rounder Kevin Boss, a tall, raw athlete, or second-year sleeper Darcy Johnson. WR Plaxico Burress uses great height to snatch balls out of the air, and he showed improved concentration in a very productive season. Even with Eli Manning's up-and-down performance, Burress rarely disappeared and made nice adjustments to poorly thrown balls. Though he can run sloppy routes, his separation speed, good timing and long arms tend to make up for it. Amani Toomer was play-

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
WR **PLAXICO BURRESS**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
LB **ANTONIO PIERCE**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
SLB **MATHIAS KIWANUKA**

As a rookie DE, Kiwanuka showed great athleticism and the ability to drop into coverage. The staff is excited about his potential.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
LCB:  
**SAM MADISON vs. AARON ROSS**

Corey Webster likely wins a starting spot by default, but Madison must hold off Ross, the team's first-round pick who won't sit long.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

RB Reuben Droughns, LB Kawika Mitchell, QB Anthony Wright.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

LB LaVar Arrington, RB Tiki Barber, WR Tim Carter, LB Carlos Emmons, PK Jay Feely, KR-PR Chad Morton, OT Luke Petitgout, TE Visanthe Shiancoe, CB Frank Walker, OT Bob Whitfield.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Aaron Ross	CB	Texas	20
2	Steve Smith	WR	USC	51
3	Jay Alford	DT	Penn State	81
4	Zak DeOssie	OLB	Brown	116
5	Kevin Boss	TE	Western Oregon	153
6	Adam Koets	OT	Oregon State	189
7	Michael Johnson	SS	Arizona	224
7	Ahmad Bradshaw	RB	Marshall	250



ing well before suffering a torn ACL. Now, his career is in doubt, though he says he'll be ready to go by camp. If healthy, he's a long-strider with good tracking skills and underrated hands. The team is counting on far more from Sinorice Moss, a speedball who was plagued by thigh injuries as a rookie. Moss' toughness was called into question by the coaches, but he worked hard in practice by season's end and should be an active playmaker in the mold of — though a poor man's version — older brother, Santana Moss. Second-rounder Steve Smith, who is deceptively fast and productive, might be the player the team hoped Tim Carter would be. David Tyree can play all three WR spots, though he's mainly a special-teamer.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Before getting hurt, Luke Petitgout arguably was the most trusted lineman, so his release was a surprise. Though Dave Diehl has kicked out to right tackle, he has played limited snaps at left

tackle. He's a solid technician with good smarts, though he lacks left-tackle feet. Guy Whimper, the team's most athletic lineman, also will get a look there. Rich Seubert will take over for Diehl at left guard. Seubert is tough, instinctive and plays with a chip on his shoulder. What he lacks in athleticism he makes up for in short-area quickness and tenacity. The team re-signed C Shaun O'Hara, who works well with Eli Manning and does a nice job making the line calls. He's not an overpowering blocker, and he can get tied up with massive nose tackles, but O'Hara plays with nice balance, rarely gets walked back and has spot-on technique and hand placement. ORG Chris Snee has played at or near a Pro Bowl level the past two seasons. He will lose his cool on occasion, but it's that fiery style that endears him to the staff. Snee can shock defenders with his punch and will maul guys if he gets his hands on them. ORT Kareem McKenzie has been a solid run blocker as a Giant, and his strengths clearly work with the team's power-running bent. Handling speed rushers has never been his strength, and it can lead to him losing concentration at times. Depth is fine with Whimper and Grey Ruggamer, who can play three interior spots.

## Defense

New coordinator Steve Spagnuolo's defense should include several aspects of the Philly-style, attacking system he learned from Eagles guru Jim Johnson. Under close watch will be the Giants' LB play, considering Spagnuolo coached that spot with the Eagles and because it has been a sore spot in New York at times. Former coordinator Tim Lewis too often used 3-4 principles in a 4-3 scheme, and Spagnuolo's style promises to attack more and be a slanting, up-field approach. Though there are secondary questions, the team should have a strong pass rush to help compensate.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The unit was hurt by injuries to Michael Strahan and Osi Umenyiora, who missed a combined 12 games in '06. After returning from a strained left hip flexor, Umenyiora struggled to regain his '05 Pro Bowl form, but he's a gifted pass rusher when healthy, able to gain the edge with a quick first step. Umenyiora takes great angles and pursues well, and though he can get caught up in double-teams, he has enough juice to reach double-digit sacks again easily. Strahan has lost a step, and a Lisfranc sprain bothered him enough for him to hint at retirement. But he's healthy now and should remain one of the better all-around ends. He slides and plays the run well, and though his pass-rushing explosion has tailed off a notch, he still can get to the QB. Mathias Kiwanuka has been penciled in as the starting strong-side linebacker after spending his rookie season as an end. He still could back up at either DE spot if the experiment to stand him up fails. Barry Cofield was another rookie surprise, lauded for his steady play. He started all 16 games at the tricky NT spot and did a respectable



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up by rookie Zak DeOssie, who figures to move ahead of Reggie Torbor on the depth chart. Backing up Mitchell is Gerris Wilkinson, who is fluid, strong and quick but didn't crack the lineup until late in his rookie season. Chase Blackburn is an excellent, hard-working backup who figures best in the middle but could pinch hit on the strong side.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Corey Webster has been a disappointment to date. He possesses good size and athleticism to play corner, but he has been victimized in coverage, especially deep, and can't turn and run with faster receivers. Injuries played a part in his struggles last season, but he must improve in coverage to keep a starting spot. Sam Madison started very slowly but rounded back into form as the season progressed. But he's 33 and doesn't have the physical qualities to be anything more than a solid No. 2 at this point. First-rounder Aaron Ross was drafted to combat the Terrell Owens-type receivers and should see slot duty, but don't rule out him starting soon. Opinions differ on FS Will Demps. Some say he was solid enough in his first season in New York, but bad tackling and poor angles also were issues. Most feel that another year of strength in his surgically repaired knee will make him a surer player. SS Gibril Wilson

also had a few slipups in coverage, but otherwise he plays an aggressive, hard-hitting brand of safety. R.W. McQuarters might have been the team's best cover corner. He missed his share of plays but is tough and aggressive and can play in the nickel. Backup safeties Jason Bell and James Butler have done a nice job when called upon. The team will take another look at project CBs E.J. Underwood and Gerrick McPherson.

The loss of PK Jay Feely is big considering the way he kicked the past two seasons. At presstime, it was Josh Huston's job by default, but he'll have competition. P Jeff Feagles might be 41, but he's great at knocking it into the coffin corner and giving the return teams time to get downfield.

**B** David Tyree and Reggie Torbor lead the coverage teams, which have been good, but the return units underperformed in '06. Sinorice Moss flashed late in his rookie season as a kickoff guy, and R.W. McQuarters is a decent punt returner. Rookie Aaron Ross also has punt-return potential.

There are many things at stake — namely Tom Coughlin's job — that depend on Eli Manning's progression. If he improves and the team suffers a losing season, Coughlin still might go, but there is a lot riding on the former No. 1 pick. The defense and special teams also must improve for this team to think seriously about avoiding another collapse like last season's meltdown after a 6-2 start.

## TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
	IND.	@PHIL.	@SEA.	WASH.	@ATL.	@BAL.	IND.	IND.	CHI.	@DAL.	@DET.	IND.	@CAR.	PHIL.	N.O.	@WASH.		
Score	21-26	30-24	30-42	19-3	27-14	36-22	17-3	14-10	20-38	10-26	21-24	20-23	27-13	22-36	7-30	34-28		
Total net yards	433	404	337	411	424	326	251	285	249	247	287	396	307	358	142	355		5214
Rushing yards	186	86	73	155	259	155	108	122	150	25	144	128	135	88	83	281		2166
Passing yards	247	318	264	256	165	173	143	163	99	222	143	270	172	270	59	94		3058
Rushing plays	28	26	15	36	38	39	35	28	22	14	36	29	35	22	18	34		455
Sacks allowed	0	8	1	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	2	1		25
Had intercepted	1	1	3	0	2	1	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	2	1	0		18
Fumbles lost	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	0		10
Yards penalized	64	75	63	76	45	24	40	53	96	35	43	94	10	55	67	41		881
Punts	1	8	4	2	4	3	9	3	5	6	5	3	9	2	9	4		77

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	29:57	27:36	38:00	25:13	25:42	27:31	24:22	28:55	32:46	40:19	26:23	26:39	29:35	31:49	40:34	31:56	30:27
Total net yards	327	451	333	164	329	379	174	251	352	414	343	365	463	382	359	393	5479
Rushing yards	55	107	106	78	223	69	40	81	118	165	108	110	45	161	236	128	1830
Passing yards	272	344	227	66	106	310	134	170	234	243	235	255	418	221	123	265	3649
Rushing plays	23	30	41	20	26	21	13	26	39	43	25	24	15	30	53	29	458
Sacks allowed	1	1	0	3	7	6	2	1	2	0	2	1	2	2	1	1	32
Had intercepted	1	0	3	0	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	1	0	1	17
Fumbles lost	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	11
Yards penalized	20	66	22	35	40	5	30	65	80	65	30	58	37	103	15	100	771
Punts	2	5	4	5	6	3	9	3	5	4	4	3	4				

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

**RUSHING**

[illegible]

**PASSING**

Manning	20-34-1	31-43-1	24-36-3	23-33-0	17-30-2	12-26-1	16-31-0	17-28-1	14-32-2	19-41-2	18-28-2	24-36-0	17-33-0	28-40-2	9-25-1	12-26-0	301-522-18
	247-2	371-3	275-3	256-1	180-2	189-2	154-1	179-1	121-0	230-1	143-1	270-2	172-3	282-0	74-1	101-1	3244-24

## RECEIVING

Barber	5-61-0	7-57-0	4-14-0	1-16-0	3-42-0	4-32-0	3-20-0	3-40-0		3-16-0	1-13-0	5-30-0	5-53-0	1-6-0	5-29-0	3-12-0	3-24-0	58-465-0	
Burress	4-80-1	6-114-1	1-23-0	7-69-1	4-44-0	2-94-1	7-86-1			4-48-0	5-65-1	4-44-1	6-43-1	4-77-1	6-120-0	1-55-1	2-26-0	63-988-10	
Carter		1-22-0	3-43-1	4-44-0	1-15-0	1-14-0							2-21-0		4-30-0	1-9-0	2-14-1	22-253-2	
Finn		1-11-0			1-6-0			1-8-0								1-9-0	1-1-0	2-14-0	8-54-0
Jacobs				1-9-0	2-15-0					1-21-0		2-29-0	2-14-0	2-52-0		1-5-0			11-149-0
Jennings	1-6-0			2-22-0						2-21-0						1-9-0			5-49-0
Moss		1-4-0											1-10-0	2-11-0			1-0-0		5-25-0
Shilenceo		1-9-0	1-5-0	2-18-0				1-13-0			2-4-0		1-7-0	1-9-0	2-8-0		1-8-0		12-81-0
Shockey	5-59-1	2-17-0	4-58-0	1-13-0	6-55-2	2-23-1	3-15-0	8-66-1		1-15-0	7-82-0	5-39-0	6-65-1	5-49-1	8-70-0	2-(+3)-0			66-623-7
Toomer	5-41-0	12-137-2	3-29-1	4-81-0	2-18-0	3-26-0	1-12-0	2-16-0											32-360-3
Tyree			5-72-1							4-38-0	2-15-0	2-16-0	1-19-0	2-15-1	1-7-0		2-15-0		19-197-7

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## New York Giants

Giants Stadium  
East Rutherford, NJ 07073  
201/935-8111  
Official Website: www.giants.com  
Stadium: Giants Stadium  
Capacity: 80,242  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 8-8; Third in NFC East

President and CEO: John K. Mara; Chairman and executive vice president: Steve Tisch; Senior V.P./general manager: Jerry Reese; V.P. of player evaluation: Chris Mara; Asst. general manager: Kevin Abrams; Director of pro personnel: David Gettleman; Director of college scouting: Jerry Shay

Head coach: Tom Coughlin

Assistant coaches: Andre Curtis, defensive quality control; Dave DeGuglielmo, asst. offensive line; Pat Flaherty, offensive line; Kevin Gilbride, offensive coordinator; Peter Giunta, secondary/cornerbacks; Jerald Ingram, running backs; Thomas McGaughey, asst. special teams; David Merritt, secondary/safeties; Chris Palmer, quarterbacks; Jerry Palmieri, strength and conditioning; Markus Paul, asst. strength and conditioning; Mike Pope, tight ends; Tom Quinn, special-teams coordinator; Sean Ryan, offensive quality control; Bill Sheridan, linebackers; Steve Spagnuolo, defensive coordinator; Mike Sullivan, wide receivers; Mike Waufile, defensive line.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

FL <b>81 TOOMER</b>	82 S. Smith*	85 Tyree	87 Watts
OLT <b>66 DIEHL</b>	79 Whimper	61 Koets*	
OLG <b>69 SEUBERT</b>	65 Ruegamer	68 Tarullo	
C <b>60 O'HARA</b>	65 Ruegamer		
ORG <b>76 SNEE</b>	65 Ruegamer	64 Lentz	
ORT <b>67 MCKENZIE</b>	71 Dunn		
TE <b>80 SHOCKEY</b>	84 D. Johnson	89 Boss*	49 Randall
SE <b>17 BURRESS</b>	83 Moss	15 Jennings	89 Mix
QB <b>10 MANNING</b>	2 Wright	12 Lorenzen	8 Hasselbeck
RB <b>27 JACOBS</b>	22 Droughns	34 Ward	39 Grant
FB <b>20 FINN</b>			

## DEFENSE

DLE <b>92 STRAHAN</b>	95 Awason	97 Kiwanuka	
NT <b>96 COFIELD</b>	75 Seawright	93 Adams	
DT <b>98 ROBBINS</b>	94 Joseph	73 Alford*	99 M. Bell
DRE <b>72 UMENYIORA</b>	91 Tuck	97 Kiwanuka	
SLB <b>97 KIWANUKA</b>	51 DeOssie*	53 Torbor	
MLB <b>58 PIERCE</b>	57 Blackburn		
WLB <b>55 MITCHELL</b>	59 Wilkinson	52 Davis	
LCB <b>23 WEBSTER</b>	25 McQuarters	31 Underwood	
RCB <b>29 MADISON</b>	31 Ross*	35 Dockery	38 McPhearson
SS <b>28 WILSON</b>	33 J. Bell	44 Stone	
FS <b>47 DEMP</b>	37 Butler		

## SPECIALISTS

P <b>18 FEAGLES</b>			
PK <b>5 HUSTON</b>	3 Hickok		
H <b>18 FEAGLES</b>	2 Wright		
PR <b>25 McQUARTERS</b>	31 Ross*	83 Moss	
KR <b>83 MOSS</b>	25 McQuarters		
LS <b>90 KUEHL</b>	51 DeOssie*		

\* Rookie

## GIANTS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
93	Adams, Titus	DT	6-4	305	1	Nebraska	0/0
73	Alford, Jay	DT	6-3	304	R	Penn State	
	Anderson, Sir Henry	DT	6-4	308	1	Oregon State	0/0
95	Awason, Adrian	DE	6-5	280	3	North Texas	10/0
33	Bell, Jason	S	6-0	196	7	UCLA	15/1
99	Bell, Marcus	DT	6-2	325	7	Memphis	13/7
	Birmingham, Decori	RB	5-10	210	1	Arkansas	0/0
57	Blackburn, Chase	LB	6-3	247	3	Akron	16/0
89	Boss, Kevin	TE	6-6	252	R	Western Oregon	
	Bradshaw, Ahmad	RB	5-9	198	R	Marshall	
17	Burress, Plaxico	WR	6-5	232	8	Michigan State	15/15
37	Butler, James	S	6-3	215	3	Georgia Tech	14/0
36	Cobbs, R.J.	CB	5-11	190	2	Massachusetts	
96	Cofield, Barry	DT	6-4	306	2	Northwestern	16/16
	Davis, Charles	TE	6-6	260	1	Purdue	0/0
52	Davis, James	LB	6-1	240	4	West Virginia	0/0
74	Davis, Tommy	DE	6-2	257	R	North Carolina	
47	Demps, Will	S	6-0	208	6	San Diego State	16/16
51	DeOssie, Zak	LB	6-4	250	R	Brown	
66	Diehl, David	OG	6-5	319	5	Illinois	16/16
35	Dockery, Kevin	CB	5-8	188	2	Mississippi State	14/0
24	Douglas, Robert	RB	6-1	230	1	Memphis	0/0
22	Droughns, Reuben	RB	5-11	220	8	Oregon	14/12
71	Dunn, Jonathan	OT	6-7	324	2	Virginia Tech	0/0
18	Feagles, Jeff	P	6-1	215	20	Miami (Fla.)	16/0
20	Finn, Jim	FB	6-0	245	8	Pennsylvania	16/11
39	Grant, Ryan	RB	6-1	218	1	Notre Dame	0/0
8	Hasselbeck, Tim	QB	6-1	214	6	Boston College	0/0
3	Hickok, Marc	PK	6-0	182	1	Connecticut	0/0
	Humes, Cedric	RB	6-1	228	1	Virginia Tech	0/0
5	Huston, Josh	PK	6-1	200	1	Ohio State	0/0
27	Jacobs, Brandon	RB	6-4	264	3	Southern Illinois	15/0
15	Jennings, Michael	WR	5-11	181	2	Florida State	8/0
84	Johnson, Darcy	TE	6-5	252	1	Central Florida	1/0
43	Johnson, Michael	S	6-2	211	R	Arizona	
94	Joseph, William	DT	6-5	308	5	Miami (Fla.)	16/3
97	Kiwanuka, Mathias	DE	6-5	265	2	Boston College	16/9
61	Koets, Adam	OT	6-5	298	R	Oregon State	
90	Kuehl, Ryan	LS	6-5	276	11	Virginia	16/0
64	Lentz, Matt	OG	6-6	320	R	Michigan	0/0
62	Londot, Todd	OG-OT	6-5	301	R	Miami (Ohio)	0/0
12	Lorenzen, Jared	QB	6-4	285	3	Kentucky	1/0
29	Madison, Sam	CB	5-11	180	10	Louisville	12/10
10	Manning, Eli	QB	6-4	225	4	Mississippi	16/16
67	McKenzie, Kareem	OT	6-6	327	7	Penn State	15/15
38	McPhearson, Gerrick	CB	5-10	197	1	Maryland	0/0
25	McQuarters, R.W.	CB	5-10	194	10	Oklahoma State	16/10
46	Mitchell, Jason	LB	6-1	230	R	Tennessee	0/0
55	Mitchell, Kawika	LB	6-1	253	5	South Florida	16/16
89	Mix, Anthony	WR	6-5	235	1	Auburn	0/0
83	Moss, Sinorice	WR	5-8	185	2	Miami (Fla.)	6/0
60	O'Hara, Shaun	C	6-3	303	8	Rutgers	15/15
2	Ohnesorge, Cory	P	6-4	208	1	Occidental	0/0
26	Osei, Claudius	S	6-0	207	1	Florida State	0/0
58	Pierce, Antonio	LB	6-1	238	7	Arizona	16/16
49	Randall, Jason	TE	6-5	270	1	Michigan State	0/0
98	Robbins, Fred	DT	6-4	317	8	Wake Forest	16/16
	Robertson, Barry	LB	6-1	245	1	Louisiana Tech	0/0
31	Ross, Aaron	CB	6-0	193	R	Texas	
65	Ruegamer, Grey	OG-C	6-4	299	9	Arizona State	16/1
75	Seawright, Jonas	DT	6-6	335	2	North Carolina	9/0
69	Seubert, Rich	OG	6-3	310	7	Western Illinois	14/3
80	Shockey, Jeremy	TE	6-5	251	6	Miami (Fla.)	15/15
30	Sims, James	RB	6-1	211	1	Washington	0/0
82	Smith, Steve	WR	5-11	197	R	USC	
48	Smith, Tyson	LB	6-2	240	2	Iowa State	3/0
76	Snee, Chris	OG	6-3	317	4	Boston College	16/16
44	Stone, Michael	CB	6-0	201	6	Memphis	2/0
92	Strahan, Michael	DE	6-5	255	15	Texas Southern	9/9
68	Tarullo, Matt	C-OG	6-5	312	1	Syracuse	0/0
81	Toomer, Armani	WR	6-3	203	12	Michigan	8/8
53	Torbor, Reggie	LB	6-2	250	4	Auburn	16/3
91	Tuck, Justin	DE	6-5	274	3	Notre Dame	6/0
85	Tyree, David	WR	6-0	206	5	Syracuse	16/1
72	Umenyiora, Osi	DE	6-3	261	5	Troy State	11/11
31	Underwood, E.J.	CB	6-1	185	1	Pikeville	0/0
34	Ward, Derrick	RB	5-11	228	4	Ottawa (Kan.)	8/0
87	Watts, Darius	WR	6-2	190	3	Marshall	0/0
23	Webster, Corey	CB	6-0	202	3	LSU	12/10
79	Whimper, Guy	OT	6-5	302	2	East Carolina	8/0
59	Wilkinson, Gerris	LB	6-3	231	2	Georgia Tech	16/2
28	Wilson, Gibril	S	6-0	209	4	Tennessee	15/15
2	Wright, Anthony	QB	6-1	211	9	South Carolina	4/0

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Dallas	8:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	Green Bay	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Washington	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	Philadelphia	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	N.Y. Jets	1 p.m.
Oct. 15	at Atlanta	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 21	San Francisco	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	Miami (at London)	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	BYE	
Nov. 11	Dallas	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Detroit	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 25	Minnesota	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Chicago	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Washington	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 23	at Buffalo	1 p.m.
Dec. 29	New England	8:15 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to New York Giants

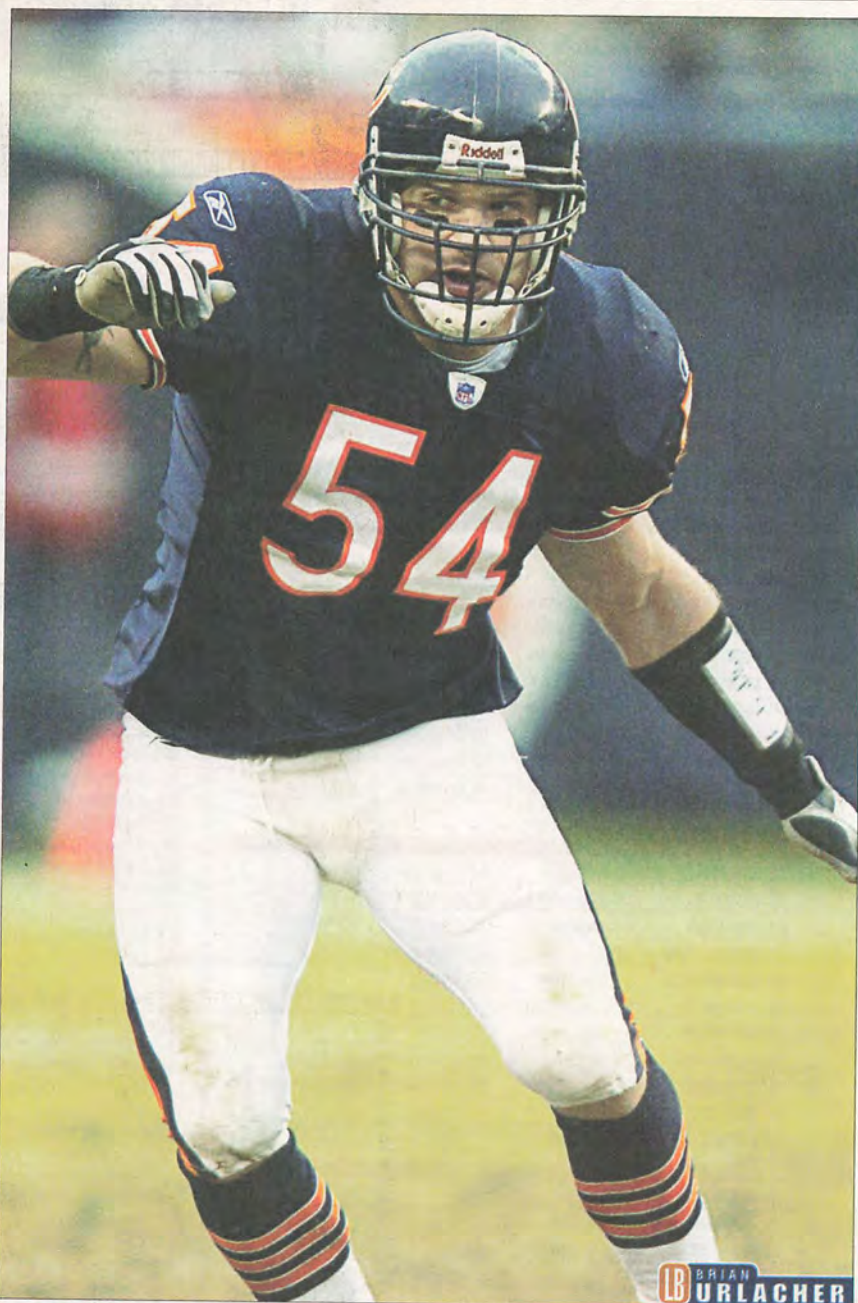
DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Indianapolis	(+3)	21-26
Sept. 17	at Philadelphia	(+2.5)	30-24*
Sept. 24	at Seattle	(+3.5)	30-42
Oct. 1	BYE		
Oct. 8	Washington	(-6)	19-3
Oct. 15	at Atlanta	(+3)	27-14
Oct. 23	at Dallas	(+3)	36-22
Oct. 29	Tampa Bay	(-9)	17-3
Nov. 5	Houston	(-13)	14-10
Nov. 12	Chicago	(-1)	20-38
Nov. 20	at Jacksonville	(+4)	10-26
Nov. 26	at Tennessee	(-4)	21-24
Dec. 3	Dallas	(+3)	20-23
Dec. 10	at Carolina	(-3)	27-13
Dec. 17	Philadelphia	(-6)	22-36
Dec. 24	New Orleans	(-3)	7-30
Dec. 30	at Washington	(-1.5)	34-28
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 7	at Philadelphia	(+6.5)	20-23

\* OVERTIME



# CHICAGO BEARS

SCOTT WALLEN / PROCASE



LB BRIAN URLACHER

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **11-5** 1st place /  
NFC North

**W**ith a second consecutive division crown and an NFC Conference championship in 2006, the Bears took an unquestionable step forward in their surge under Lovie Smith. However, the public revelation of Smith's contract negotiations, LB Lance Briggs' media tirade and the dispatching of offensive MVP Thomas Jones marked a particularly dramatic offseason.

Jones' departure leaves former first-round RB Cedric Benson and QB Rex Grossman under severe scrutiny

as offensive centerpieces. On defense, the team must deal with Briggs' threat to hold out of the regular season, Tank Johnson's potential suspension and first-year coordinator Bob Babich's growing pains.

## Offense

The Bears' front office insisted that the offense would improve with Rex Grossman under center full time. That persistence paid off, as Chicago finished tied for second in the NFL in points scored — although leading the league in points off turnovers certainly helped. Still, an offense that finished 2005 near the bottom of the league leapt up to middle of the pack

behind Grossman's torrid start, a powerful ground game featuring Thomas Jones and Cedric Benson and the emergence of deep threat Bernard Berrian.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Rex Grossman's 23 TD tosses speak to his arm strength, his confident mentality and his ability to throw the deep ball, but his 20 picks speak to his inexperience, poor decision-making and inconsistency. If given time and a play-action complement, Grossman can sit in the pocket and pick apart defenses. However, under duress, his mechanics and reads break down. With defenders in his face, he tends to throw off his back foot and force the ball up for grabs downfield. His maturation —



specifically taking better care of the football and finding comfort in a collapsing pocket — will determine if he stays on the field ahead of veteran Brian Griese. Griese is comfortable in Ron Turner's West Coast scheme after six games of mop-up duty in '06 and two years in a similar system in Tampa. He is accurate and intelligent, albeit not a great athlete with a huge arm. Third-stringer Kyle Orton is limited and quickly becoming an afterthought after 10 wins as a rookie in '05.

**RUNNING BACKS** • Thomas Jones' dismissal was ushered in by the team's confidence in Cedric Benson, and after two years of modest contributions as Jones' apprentice, clearly his time is now. The No. 4 overall pick in the 2005 draft hits the hole harder, is more dynamic and possesses more power than Jones, but he isn't nearly as reliable in pass protection. Moreover, despite his reputation as a workhorse at Texas, his durability has come into question after two knee sprains and a shoulder injury in two seasons as a pro. Veteran Adrian Peterson climbs to No. 2 on the depth chart. Not unlike Jones, Peterson runs harder and with more toughness than his size suggests and is a willing blocker and more-than-adequate receiver. He averaged more than five yards per carry when called on in '05. RB Garrett Wolfe is extremely undersized but can provide a third-down change of pace to the bruising Benson. The team loves his hands and receiving ability. FB Jason McKie earned a contract extension with solid lead blocking and adequate receiving contributions as a safety valve in the flat.

**RECEIVERS** • Bernard Berrian has clearly replaced Muhsin Muhammad as the big-play target. His straight-ahead speed makes him as dangerous a deep threat as there is in the league, and he has also made significant strides in his overall route running and ability to catch the football underneath. His slight stature leads to frequent nicks and dings, such as the rib injury that cost him the better part of two games at midseason, but his ability to rebound quickly and his clutch play in the postseason (14 catches, two TDs in three playoff games) speak to his development. Muhammad is a clear asset in the locker room and the huddle, but his production did not improve despite the move from Orton to Grossman. His size and savvy make him a nice weapon inside the 10, he's a physical blocker and he will exploit smaller defenders over the middle. He does occasionally drop catchable balls and has never been one to regularly break away from defenders after the catch. After moving from cornerback, slot WR Rashied Davis made an impression with his heady play, dependable hands and clutch performances in game-winning situations vs. Minnesota and Seattle. Mark Bradley recovered slowly from knee and ankle injuries but stepped up when Berrian missed time. He has flashed game-breaking ability but must stay healthy to prove him-

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **CEDRIC BENSON**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
LB **BRIAN URLACHER**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**RB CEDRIC BENSON**  
With Thomas Jones no longer in the way, Benson will make good on his reputation as a power, downhill, workhorse back.

#### POSITION BATTLE

**SS:**  
**MIKE BROWN VS. ADAM ARCHULETA**  
Brown has the athletic ability to play the FS spot next to Archuleta, but to do so, he'll have to prove a significant return to health.

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS

DT Anthony Adams, S Adam Archuleta.

#### KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES

DT Alfonso Boone, WR Justin Gage, S Todd Johnson, RB Thomas Jones, S Cameron Worrell.

#### 2007 DRAFT PICKS

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Greg Olsen	TE	Miami (Fla.)	31
2	Dan Bazuin	DE	Central Michigan	62
3	Garrett Wolfe	RB	Northern Illinois	93
3	Michael Okwo	LB	Stanford	94
4	Josh Beekman	OG	Boston College	130
5	Kevin Payne	S	Louisiana-Monroe	167
5	Corey Graham	CB	New Hampshire	168
7	Trumaine McBride	CB	Mississippi	221
7	Aaron Brant	OT	Iowa State	241



self as an every-down player. Like Davis, TE Desmond Clark provided Rex Grossman with a security blanket down the seam. Clark's big-play ability comes from identifying the soft spots in coverage rather than running away from defenders. First-round pick Greg Olsen provides that speed and explosiveness down the seam, although he lacks the base strength for blocking. He provides a dynamic target for Grossman and may challenge Clark for playing time immediately.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • It's rare for an O-lineman to carry the label of team leader, but C Olin Kreutz is the enforcer on this side of the ball. He's as valuable on the field, too, handling his own responsibilities at a Pro Bowl level while also making those around him better. He's powerful enough to take on the game's best tackles and athletic enough to dive outside and help teammates left in the dust. OLG Ruben Brown credits Kreutz for rejuvenating his career, and the nine-time Pro Bowler looked young again

late in the season clearing gaping holes in the run game. OLT John Tait is consistent, reliable and solid but susceptible to elite speed in pass protection. ORT Fred Miller may be more powerful than Tait coming off the ball and driving forward, but he's even more vulnerable to quickness on the edge. ORG Roberto Garza has the right makeup and is tough and nasty. While hardly a road-grader, he is efficient and dependable. He and versatile backup Terrence Metcalf, both in the fold long term, are the future in this aging group. Swing OT John St. Clair and rookie OG Joshua Beekman add depth.

## Defense

Lovie Smith's cover-2 began the season in dominant fashion, holding its first 10 opponents to less than 300 total yards and registering 29 takeaways in those 10 tilts. However, the Bears' "D" finished the season in pedestrian fashion, permitting more than 300 total yards in each of its final nine games (including playoffs). The loss of Mike Brown in Week Six and Tommie Harris in Week 13 not only cost the team two of its top playmakers, but it robbed them of their their headiest defensive back and best pass rusher. Although they finished tops in the league in turnovers forced, they were not the same defense in the playoffs, as evidenced by the Colts in the Super Bowl. At season's end, Smith unceremoniously dumped popular coordinator Ron Rivera in exchange for long-time sidekick Bob Babich.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • Lovie Smith and GM Jerry Angelo are fond of saying their defense is built from the inside out, which tells you just how critical Tommie Harris is. Coming off a severe hamstring injury, all eyes will be on his recovery; he was a front-runner for Defensive Player of the Year early last season. A prototypical Tampa-2 three-technique, Harris isn't built in the traditional DT mold, but he has the suddenness to break off the ball, shoot the gap and harass the passer. It was that ability the team missed most, in part because their ends could not overcome the increased attention Harris had demanded. DLE Adewale Ogunleye has not shown the explosiveness he once did as a 15-sack man in Miami, leading some to wonder whether foot, ankle and hamstring injuries over the last few seasons have cost him some burst. He remains better than advertised vs. the run but needs to play hard on every snap. DRE Alex Brown has long been better stopping the run than pressuring the passer. His persistence and durability will result in average sack totals annually. Expect to see him defer to backup Mark Anderson more in obvious pass situations. Anderson led the team in sacks as a rookie, utilizing his great speed to beat tackles upfield. He's undersized, needs to develop his repertoire of moves and has to improve vs. the run before he can become an every-down end. Rookie Dan Bazuin brings a relentless motor to the DE rotation. DT Tank Johnson



is not as stout as your traditional nose, but he stands his ground well enough to complement Harris. Of course, his conditioning and frame of mind will be concerns after a jail sentence and a likely NFL-mandated suspension. Newcomer Anthony Adams fell out of favor in the 49ers' odd front, but his quickness and athleticism are more suited for the cover-2. He is experienced insurance for the uncertainty around Johnson. Dusty Dvoracek returns from a foot injury that cost him his rookie season and will be a factor in the DT rotation.

**LINEBACKERS** • MLB Brian Urlacher can best be summed up by watching film of the Bears' comeback win over Arizona. Driven by a competitive refusal to lose, Urlacher used his range, quickness, strength, anticipation and explosiveness to make play after play — shooting the gap for a tackle for loss, eliminating yards after the catch in coverage and stripping the ball for a game-changing turnover. He pursues and chases from sideline as well as anyone in the game, and he can run with all but the quickest receivers down the seam. He can be erased at times with good blocking, and Bob Babich will be seeking to improve his effectiveness on the blitz, as he had zero sacks in '06. While not as rangy as Urlacher, WLB Lance Briggs runs well, rarely misses tackles and has great anticipation.

He's a quick, instinctive and intelligent player, but the system does funnel the ball his way. He is not as good as the Bears' defense makes him appear to be, and his star could fade in a defense where he is not

featured. SLB Hunter Hillenmeyer isn't nearly the athlete his counterparts are, but he's heady and rarely makes mistakes. The backups of note, especially considering Briggs' unsettled situation, are athletic '06 fourth-rounder Jamar Williams and high-energy '07 third-rounder Michael Okwo.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** • CB Charles Tillman is coming off arguably his best season. He isn't a shutdown corner in the traditional sense, but he did draw some man-coverage opportunities in '06 and has the physical attributes, willingness to support the run and awareness that the cover-2 demands. Nathan

Vasher is less physical but willing to mix it up, has more quickness than Tillman and is more instinctual playing the ball. Like Vasher, Ricky Manning Jr. plays bigger than he is and has a knack for baiting quarterbacks into mistakes from the nickel spot.

Devin Hester insists on staying at corner but has a long way to go to become an every-down defensive player. Mike Brown's role is uncertain given his health and the recent acquisition of Adam Archuleta, who excels as an eighth man in run support. If healthy, Brown has the range to play deep-halves coverage at free safety. Archuleta, as evidenced last season in Washington, does not. Rookie FS Danieal Manning made 14 starts and has exceptional speed and range, but he has a ways to go as a tackler and in taking good angles and reading routes. He may warrant a look at corner with Tillman and Vasher approaching the end of their con-

tracts. Third-year S Chris Harris, a better hitter than coverage defender, adds depth with starting experience.

## Special teams

As capable as the Bears' defense is annually, the third phase was the more dominant unit a year ago. RS Devin Hester, PK Robbie Gould and LB Brendon Ayanbadejo all went to Hawaii, and P Brad Maynard was as reliable as ever. There is concern for a decline, however. Dave

Toub's unit will share more of Adrian Peterson with the offense, and standouts Todd Johnson and Cameron Worrell

are gone. Toub will also have to devise ways to make teams pay for kicking away from Hester, which the Bears struggled with after the opening kickoff of Super Bowl XLI. Hester's vision, sudden burst, play speed and lightning-fast change of direction were all on display a year ago. Garrett Wolfe's skill set may be utilized on special teams.

## Summary

Despite all the drama, the Bears do return largely intact. Cedric Benson is the lone new starter on the offensive side, and Lance Briggs has every incentive to suit up in Week One. Only one of the last six Super Bowl losers has even qualified for the playoffs the following season, but in a division lacking a true challenger and a conference with few legitimate contenders, the Bears remain an NFC front-runner.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	26-0	34-7	19-16	37-6	40-7	24-23	41-10	13-31	38-20	10-0	13-17	23-13	42-27	34-31	26-21	7-26		
Total net yards	361	383	325	362	351	168	402	292	352	284	324	107	372	446	354	316		5199
Rushing yards	109	89	51	143	156	38	145	103	118	173	153	83	172	134	116	135		1918
Passing yards	252	294	274	219	195	130	257	189	234	111	171	24	200	312	238	181		3281
Rushing plays	36	34	21	38	38	16	35	28	39	35	36	25	34	34	30	24		503
Sacks allowed	1	0	1	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	0	4	2	2		25
Had intercepted	1	0	2	0	0	4	0	3	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	5		22
Fumbles lost	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	3	2	0	1	2	0	1	0	1		14
Yards penalized	25	93	82	60	21	50	49	45	80	65	31	65	86	79	48	44		923
Punts	4	3	3	5	3	6	3	3	5	8	3	7	3	10	6	5		77

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	25:55	27:00	31:39	24:28	22:29	39:43	22:55	29:54	27:14	31:54	28:58	39:21	33:21	24:45	25:17	36:56		29:29
Total net yards	267	245	286	230	145	286	248	298	249	264	352	346	433	357	327	373		4706
Rushing yards	103	46	97	77	58	66	127	181	150	108	85	190	101	57	67	97		1590
Passing yards	164	199	189	153	87	220	121	137	99	156	267	156	332	300	260	276		3116
Rushing plays	23	14	24	19	18	38	19	35	22	30	34	33	22	19	18	34		402
Sacks allowed	3	6	1	5	3	1	2	0	2	2	0	5	3	2	3	2		40
Had intercepted	2	0	0	2	3	0	2	2	2	2	2	4	1	1	0	1		24
Fumbles lost	1	3	2	0	2	2	3	0	1	0	3	1	0	1	1	0		20
Yards penalized	45	104	83	59	44	65	38	69	96	40	81	69	91	73	92	35		1084
Punts	6	6	4	8	6	8	4	6	5	7	3	8	6	11	7	5		100

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

	<b>RUSHING</b>																
Benson	11-34-0	10-25-0		11-37-0	14-48-2	1-4-0	8-26-1	8-34-0	6-7-0	10-51-0	10-46-1	9-60-1	16-64-0	15-53-1	15-49-0	13-109-0	157-647-6
Grossman	1-2-0	1-0-0	3-(-3)-0	1-2-0		3-(-7)-0			3-(-2)-0	1-(-1)-0	2-1-0	4-(-9)-0	3-20-0			2-(-1)-0	24-2-0
Jones	21-63-0	21-64-0	18-54-0	24-98-2	21-110-0	11-43-0	23-111-1	20-69-0	30-113-1	23-121-0	23-99-0	12-32-0	11-76-1	17-68-1	12-62-0	9-27-0	296-1210-6
McKie	3-10-0			1-1-0		1-(-2)-0	1-0-0			1-2-0							8-18-0
Peterson		1-1-0				1-10-0							3-12-1	2-13-0	3-5-1		10-41-2

### PASSING \*\*

Griese		1-1-0			4-4-0		2-3-0									6-9-0	5-15-2	18-32-2
Grossman	18-26-1	20-27-0	23-41-2	17-31-0	15-27-0	14-37-4	23-29-0	18-42-3	18-30-1	11-22-0	15-34-3	6-19-3	13-23-0	29-44-0	20-36-0	2-12-3	262-480-20	220-1
	262-1	289-4	278-1	232-2	182-2	144-0	252-3	210-1	246-3	119-1	176-0	34-0	200-2	339-2	197-1	33-0	3193-23	

### RECEIVING

Benson				2-14-0	1-8-0	1-3-0		1-(-1)-0								2-8-0	1-22-0	8-54-0
Berrian	1-49-1	5-89-1	6-70-0	3-108-1	4-97-1	2-31-0	5-41-0	1-10-0			5-104-0	4-21-0	3-62-1	6-33-0	5-43-1	1-17-0	51-775-6	
Bradley		1-5-0							4-79-1	4-80-1	1-15-0				3-28-0	1-75-1	14-282-3	
Clark	5-77-0	5-85-1	2-31-0	3-39-0	1-12-0	4-61-0	6-86-2	3-38-0	1-2-1	1-2-0	2-14-0		2-18-0	7-125-2	3-36-0		45-626-6	
Davis	1-8-0	1-31-0	3-48-1		3-41-1	2-27-0		5-40-0	1-26-0		1-3-0		1-5-0	1-28-0	1-27-0	2-19-0	22-303-2	
Gage					2-17-0			2-51-0									4-68-0	
Gilmore		2-8-2			1-7-0						2-5-0				1-18-0		6-38-2	
Jones	1-0-0	1-2-0	3-11-0	2-9-0	4-13-0	3-14-0	4-23-0	4-24-0	3-10-0	2-1-0	1-(-2)-0		2-26-0	3-16-0	2-10-0	1-(-3)-0	36-154-0	
McKie	4-26-0	2-15-0		3-12-0		1-1-0	3-37-0	1-5-0	1-7-0	1-3-0		1-8-0	1-7-0	5-34-0	2-7-0		25-162-0	
Muhammad	6-102-0	4-59-0	9-118-0	5-45-1	2-10-0	1-2-0	5-65-1	2-42-1	7-123-1	2-29-0	3-37-0		1-5-0	3-50-1	3-64-0	1-27-0	60-883-5	
Peterson						1-8-0			1-4-0				1-32-0		2-7-0	1-37-0	6-88-0	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Chicago Bears

Halas Hall  
1000 Football Drive  
Lake Forest, IL 60045  
847/295-6600  
Official Website: www.chicagobears.com  
Stadium: Soldier Field  
Capacity: 61,500  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 13-3; First in NFC North

Chairman of the board: Michael McCaskey; President and CEO: Ted Phillips

General manager: Jerry Angelo; Director of college scouting: Greg Gabriel; Director of pro personnel: Bobby DePaul

Head coach: Lovie Smith

Assistant coaches: Jim Arthur, strength and conditioning assistant; Bob Babich, defensive coordinator; Rob Boras, tight ends; Luke Butkus, offensive line assistant; Gill Byrd, defensive quality control; Darryl Drake, wide receivers; Brick Haley, defensive line; Pep Hamilton, quarterbacks; Harry Hiestand, offensive line; Rusty Jones, strength and conditioning coordinator; Lloyd Lee, defensive assistant; Charles London, offensive quality control; Hardy Nickerson, linebackers; Kevin O'Dea, asst. special teams; Tim Spencer, running backs; Dave Toub, special-teams coordinator; Ron Turner, offensive coordinator; Steven Wilks, defensive backs.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

WR <b>87 MUHAMMAD</b>	81 Davis	83 Hass	
OLT <b>76 TAIT</b>	78 St. Clair		
OLG <b>74 R. BROWN</b>	60 Metcalf	67 Beekman*	64 Reed
C <b>57 KREUTZ</b>	68 Oakley	67 Beekman*	
ORG <b>63 GARZA</b>	60 Metcalf	67 Beekman*	64 Reed
ORT <b>69 MILLER</b>	78 St. Clair		
TE <b>88 CLARK</b>	82 Olsen*	85 Gilmore	86 Angulo
WR <b>80 BERRIAN</b>	16 Bradley	17 Currie	
QB <b>8 GROSSMAN</b>	14 Griesse	18 Orton	
RB <b>32 BENSON</b>	29 Peterson	25 Wolfe*	
FB <b>37 MCKIE</b>	48 Runnels	47 B. Johnson	

## DEFENSE

DLE <b>93 OGUNLEYE</b>	71 Idonije	79 Bazuin*	
DT <b>91 T. HARRIS</b>	90 Garay	71 Idonije	
NT <b>96 ADAMS</b>	99 T. Johnson	98 Dvoracek	
DRE <b>96 A. BROWN</b>	97 Anderson	79 Bazuin*	
SLB <b>92 HILLENMEYER</b>	94 Ayanbadejo	58 McClover	
MLB <b>54 URLACHER</b>	59 Wilson	62 Okwo*	
WLB <b>55 BRIGGS</b>	52 Williams	62 Okwo*	53 Joe
LCB <b>33 TILLMAN</b>	24 R. Manning		
RCB <b>31 VASHER</b>	23 Hester	21 Wesley	
SS <b>20 ARCHULETA</b>	46 C. Harris	36 McGowan	44 Payne
FS <b>30 M. BROWN</b>	38 D. Manning	46 C. Harris	27 Turnbull

## SPECIALISTS

P <b>4 MAYNARD</b>			
PK <b>9 GOULD</b>	Novak		
H <b>4 MAYNARD</b>			
PR <b>23 HESTER</b>	81 Davis	25 Wolfe*	
KR <b>23 HESTER</b>	81 Davis	25 Wolfe*	
LS <b>65 MANNELLY</b>	88 Clark		

\* Rookie

## BEARS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
96	Adams, Anthony	DT	6-0	297	5	Penn State	14/5
97	Anderson, Mark	DE	6-4	255	2	Alabama	16/1
86	Angulo, Richard	TE	6-8	260	3	Western New Mexico	0/0
20	Archuleta, Adam	S	6-0	215	7	Arizona State	16/7
94	Ayanbadejo, Brendon	LB	6-1	228	5	UCLA	16/0
19	Ball, David	WR	6-1	201	R	New Hampshire	
79	Bazuin, Dan	DE	6-3	265	R	Central Michigan	
67	Beekman, Joshua	OG-C	6-2	321	R	Boston College	
32	Benson, Cedric	RB	5-11	220	3	Texas	15/0
80	Berrian, Bernard	WR	6-1	185	4	Fresno State	15/14
16	Bradley, Mark	WR	6-2	198	3	Oklahoma	12/4
70	Brant, Aaron	OT	6-6	320	R	Iowa State	
55	Briggs, Lance	LB	6-1	240	5	Arizona	10/0
96	Brown, Alex	DE	6-3	260	6	Florida	16/16
30	Brown, Mike	SS	5-10	207	8	Nebraska	6/6
74	Brown, Ruben	OG	6-3	300	13	Pittsburgh	16/16
72	Bryan, Copeland	DE	6-3	253	1	Arizona	0/0
88	Clark, Desmond	TE	6-3	249	9	Wake Forest	16/16
17	Currie, Airese	WR	5-11	185	1	Clemson	1/0
81	Davis, Rashied	WR	5-9	183	3	San Jose State	16/2
98	Dvoracek, Dusty	NT	6-3	303	1	Oklahoma	0/0
22	Everett, Tyler	SS	5-11	202	2	Ohio State	3/0
39	Fassitt, Greg	CB	5-11	181	R	Grambling	
	Filipovic, Filip	P	6-2	216	1	South Dakota	0/0
75	Frome, Chris	DE	6-5	262	R	Notre Dame	
90	Garay, Antonio	DT	6-3	303	3	Boston College	4/0
63	Garza, Roberto	OG-C	6-2	305	7	Texas A&M-Kingsville	16/16
85	Gilmore, John	TE	6-5	257	6	Penn State	16/3
9	Gould, Robbie	PK	6-0	183	3	Penn State	16/0
35	Graham, Corey	CB	6-0	195	R	New Hampshire	
14	Griesse, Brian	QB	6-3	214	10	Michigan	6/0
8	Grossman, Rex	QB	6-1	217	5	Florida	16/16
46	Harris, Chris	FS	6-0	205	3	Louisiana-Monroe	11/7
91	Harris, Tommie	DT	6-3	295	4	Oklahoma	12/11
83	Hass, Mike	WR	6-1	209	1	Oregon State	0/0
23	Hester, Devin	CB	5-11	186	2	Miami (Fla.)	16/0
92	Hillenmeyer, Hunter	LB	6-4	238	5	Vanderbilt	15/13
71	Idonije, Israel	DT	6-6	270	4	Manitoba	13/1
15	James, Drisan	WR	6-0	193	R	Boise State	
53	Joe, Leon	LB	6-1	230	4	Maryland	9/0
47	Johnson, Bryan	FB	6-1	244	7	Boise State	0/0
99	Johnson, Tank	NT	6-3	300	4	Washington	14/10
57	Kreutz, Olin	C	6-2	292	10	Washington	16/16
12	Leak, Chris	QB	5-11	210	R	Florida	
75	LeVoi, Mark	OT	6-7	310	1	Notre Dame	0/0
65	Mannelly, Patrick	LS	6-5	265	10	Duke	16/0
38	Manning, Danieal	FS	5-11	196	2	Abilene Christian	16/14
24	Manning Jr., Ricky	CB	5-9	188	5	UCLA	15/6
4	Maynard, Brad	P	6-1	186	11	Ball State	16/0
26	McBride, Trumaine	CB	5-9	185	R	Mississippi	
58	McClover, Darrell	LB	6-2	226	4	Miami (Fla.)	7/0
36	McGowan, Brandon	SS	5-11	205	3	Maine	1/0
37	McKie, Jason	FB	5-11	243	6	Temple	15/12
	McMeans, Tyler	OG	6-4	325	1	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
60	Metcalf, Terrence	OG	6-3	318	6	Mississippi	16/0
69	Miller, Fred	OT	6-7	314	12	Baylor	16/16
87	Muhammad, Muhsin	WR	6-2	215	12	Michigan State	16/16
	Novak, Nick	PK	6-0	189	4	Maryland	0/0
	O'Sullivan, J.T.	QB	6-2	227	6	Cal-Davis	0/0
68	Oakley, Anthony	OG-C	6-4	298	2	Western Kentucky	0/0
93	Ogunleye, Adewale	DE	6-4	260	7	Indiana	14/14
62	Okwo, Michael	LB	5-11	232	R	Stanford	
82	Olsen, Greg	TE	6-4	252	R	Miami (Fla.)	
18	Orton, Kyle	QB	6-4	217	3	Purdue	0/0
44	Payne, Kevin	S	6-0	216	R	Louisiana-Monroe	
29	Peterson, Adrian	RB	5-10	210	6	Georgia Southern	16/0
64	Reed, Tyler	OG	6-4	307	1	Penn State	0/0
84	Rideau, Brandon	WR	6-3	200	2	Kansas	0/0
	Riggs, Gerald	RB	5-11	229	1	Tennessee	0/0
48	Runnels, J.D.	FB	5-11	240	2	Oklahoma	2/0
78	St. Clair, John	OT	6-5	315	8	Virginia	16/2
43	Staggs, Jay	S	6-1	225	R	UNLV	
	Stelly, Joel	P	5-10	200	1	Louisiana-Monroe	0/0
13	Swain, Jayson	WR	6-0	212	R	Tennessee	
76	Tait, John	OT	6-6	312	9	Brigham Young	14/14
33	Tillman, Charles	CB	6-1	196	5	Louisiana-Lafayette	14/14
27	Turnbull, Nick	S	6-2	222	2	Florida International	3/0
54	Urlacher, Brian	LB	6-4	258	8	New Mexico	16/16
31	Vasher, Nathan	CB	5-10	180	4	Texas	14/13
64	Verdun-Wheeler, Danny	LB	6-2	242	R	Notre Dame	
21	Wesley, Dante	CB	6-1	210	6	Arkansas-Pine Bluff	13/0
52	Williams, Jamar	LB	6-0	234	2	Arizona State	3/0
59	Wilson, Rod	LB	6-2	230	2	South Carolina	13/0
25	Wolfe, Garrett	RB	5-7	177	R	Northern Illinois	

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at San Diego	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	Kansas City	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 23	Dallas	8:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Detroit	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	at Green Bay	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 14	Minnesota	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Philadelphia	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 28	Detroit	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	BYE	
Nov. 11	at Oakland	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Seattle	8:15 p.m.*
Nov. 25	Denver	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	N.Y. Giants	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 6	at Washington	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 17	at Minnesota	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 23	Green Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	New Orleans	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Chicago

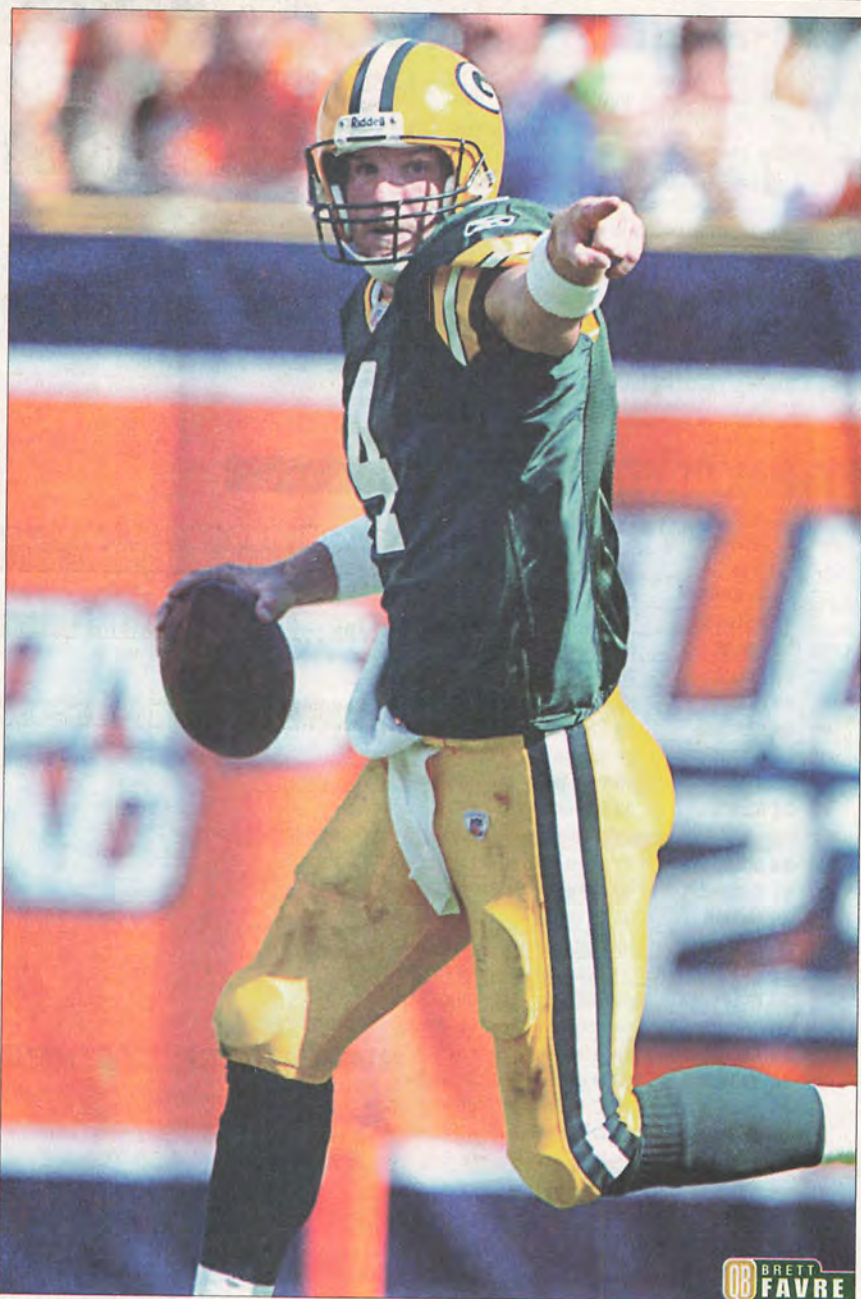
DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Green Bay	(-3.5)	26-0
Sept. 17	Detroit	(-7)	34-7
Sept. 24	At Minnesota	(-3.5)	19-16
Oct. 1	Seattle	(-3.5)	37-6
Oct. 8	Buffalo	(-9.5)	40-7
Oct. 16	At Arizona	(-12.5)	24-23
Oct. 22	BYE		
Oct. 29	San Francisco	(-16)	41-10
Nov. 5	Miami	(-13)	13-31
Nov. 12	At New York Giants	(+1)	38-20
Nov. 19	At New York Jets	(-5.5)	10-0
Nov. 26	At New England	(+4.5)	13-17
Dec. 3	Minnesota	(-9)	23-13
Dec. 11	At St. Louis	(-6)	42-27
Dec. 17	Tampa Bay	(-13.5)	34-31*
Dec. 24	At Detroit	(-6)	26-21
Dec. 31	Green Bay	(-3)	7-26
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 14	Seattle	(-9)	27-24*
Jan. 21	New Orleans	(-2.5)	39-14
Feb. 4	Indianapolis	(+7)	17-29

\* OVERTIME



# GREEN BAY PACKERS

SPORTS PICTURE NETWORK



QB BRETT FAVRE

PREDICTED  
RECORD:

7-9

2nd place /  
NFC North

**A**fter a 4-12 campaign and the somewhat surprising hire of first-year head coach Mike McCarthy, the Packers weren't counting on a contending season. However, behind an infusion of youth that matured throughout the season, Green Bay finished the season on a four-game tear and missed the NFC playoffs on a tie-breaking technicality.

With Brett Favre electing to return for his 17th NFL season, the Green and Gold have their sights set on the postseason, banking

on continued improvement from their own homegrown talent and spurning the temptation to build via free-agency.

## Offense

Mike McCarthy installed his West Coast-style passing game and a zone-rushing scheme, only to watch offensive coordinator Jeff Jagodzinski leave for the NCAAAs after one season. Again, the Packers opted to promote from within and stay the course with OL coach Joe Philbin. In the second year of a revamped rushing philosophy and behind a maturing line with a year of experience under its belt, the Pack is aiming to bring up its 23rd-ranked run game to match the eighth-best passing

attack in the NFL.

**QUARTERBACKS** • Brett Favre was forced to put his gunslinging nature on the backburner, not only because of his career-high 29 picks in 2005, but because of his extremely raw blockers and WR corps. He still boasts a plus arm, albeit not the cannon that can squeeze pills into triple coverage. For the most part, he played the manager role with more efficiency and composure than one would expect given his aggressive tendencies. Favre remains a playmaker, but with waning athleticism, accuracy and arm strength, he cannot single-handedly carry a team without dynamic talent at the skill positions. The team





remains committed to Aaron Rodgers, who has seen 31 pass attempts in two years thanks to Favre's legendary durability. Rodgers has recovered well from a significant foot injury, but there are still legitimate questions about his arm strength, athleticism, awareness, leadership skills and comfort level in an NFL pocket. Third-stringer Ingle Martin fits the short-passing scheme but remains a project.

**RUNNING BACKS** • The free-agent departure of Ahman Green leaves the cupboard relatively bare in the backfield. Former Texans '05 third-rounder Vernand Morency tops the depth chart. He's quick, elusive and fits the one-cut scheme, but isn't built for every-down duty. He has iffy hands catching and holding the ball, isn't a particularly strong blocker and hasn't proven the ability to consistently gain tough yards inside. Second-round draft pick Brandon Jackson will compete with Morency for touches. He fits the team's zone scheme well and has better hands and size than the incumbent, despite a lack of production at the NCAA level.

Noah Herron will get what's available, but he doesn't have the creativity to make someone miss or the speed to break the big one. Undrafted '06 training-camp standout Arliss Beach is a physical, downhill runner. FB Brandon Miree, familiar with zone blocking from his time in Denver, has turned heads with his athleticism and aggressiveness.

**RECEIVERS** • Donald Driver continues to maximize his skill set. His size, strength and speed do not stack up to the elite, but his savvy, route-running, toughness and effort make up for it. In the past, he had been eliminated by defenses when pressed to be a true No. 1, but he was never better with less help than in '06, surrounded by rookies out wide. Not unlike Driver, Greg Jennings' measurables won't intimidate many corners, but he's more dangerous and plays faster when he's on the field. He played with maturity beyond his years early, but lost confidence after an ankle injury and, uncharacteristically, he struggled with routes and dropped passes. Second-year pro Ruvel Martin (6-4, 217) has prototypical West Coast size. Shifty but hardly fast, Martin doesn't back down over the middle or in the red zone. Veteran Robert Ferguson returns from another injury. He has the ability but can't keep himself on the field. Street free agent Carlyle Holiday impressed late last year as a true deep threat. Packers scouts loved rookie James Jones' size and reached for the raw wideout in the third round. Fifth-rounder David Clowney, with his vertical speed and return ability, may see the field quicker. TE Bubba Franks appears to have lost a step, struggled catching and holding on to the football and was beaten repeatedly in pass protection. Donald Lee's athleticism is off the charts, but his hands are unreliable, and his blocking isn't stellar.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • Veteran OTs Chad

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
WR **DONALD DRIVER**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
LB **A.J. HAWK**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**WR GREG JENNINGS**  
Brett Favre has made far-lesser receivers look good, and Jennings was well on his way as a rookie before a significant ankle sprain.

**POSITION BATTLE**

**SS:**  
**MARQUAND MANUEL vs. MARVEL UNDERWOOD**

Only one spot on the entire defense is up for grabs, and Manuel struggled mightily in his first season in Green Bay.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

CB Frank Walker.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

RB Ahman Green, FB William Henderson, TE David Martin.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Justin Harrell	DT	Tennessee	16
2	Brandon Jackson	RB	Nebraska	63
3	James Jones	WR	San Jose State	78
3	Aaron Rouse	SS	Virginia Tech	89
4	Allen Barbre	OT	Missouri Southern St.	119
5	David Clowney	WR	Virginia Tech	157
6	Korey Hall	ILB	Boise State	191
6	Desmond Bishop	ILB	California	192
6	Mason Crosby	PK	Colorado	193
7	DeShawn Wynn	RB	Florida	228
7	Clark Harris	TE	Rutgers	243



Clifton and Mark Tauscher anchor an otherwise young unit. Clifton is bothered by chronic knee problems, but he has played effectively through pain. He is particularly strong in pass protection, where he has a great set and is a gifted athlete for his size. Clifton did struggle occasionally with the back-side cut in the zone-blocking scheme. Tauscher, on the other hand, took to the new system by year's end, which may not surprise since he is not tall or powerful enough to be a road-grader. He will get beaten by edge rushers in pass pro but takes good angles in recovery. OLG Daryn Colledge, ORG Jason Spitz and reserve Tony Moll exceeded expectations as regular starters inside as rookies in '06. Colledge made huge strides after a brutal preseason. He's athletic and agile as a pass-blocker but needs more strength in order to drive defenders backward. Conversely, Spitz is tough, nasty and effective in a phonebooth but struggles in space. He overextends and

misses and must tighten up his technique. Moll got 10 starts as a swing backup and has upside, perhaps highest at tackle. The '06 fifth-rounder will battle but needs to improve his mechanics and overall strength to become a starter. C Scott Wells earned a huge payday by coming on strong in his third year. He's intelligent, competitive, aggressive and agile, and he uses his strength and leverage to get out to the second level.

## Defense

The improvement of this unit was the driving force behind the Packers' surge into the playoff picture. A unit that gave up big play after big play in the season's first half tightened significantly, finishing middle of the pack in total defense (12th), rush defense (13th) and pass defense (17th). The improvement was attributed to a critical lineup change in which DT Cullen Jenkins shifted outside and replaced DE Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila as the starter. The defense rose up vs. the run and was more effective in obvious pass-rush situations with a fresher KGB. Green Bay also benefitted from a remarkably healthy campaign.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila is regularly pushed back at the point of attack and was subsequently beat down when it came time to pin his ears back. His explosiveness, speed and pursuit will be more effective as a part-time player. The bigger, stronger Cullen Jenkins helps shore up what was a permissive run unit and earned himself a nice payday. Surprisingly, he has the explosion and an effective spin move to beat OLTs off the line, but he will get engulfed physically as a base end. DLE Aaron Kampman, second in the NFL in sacks in '06, is a classic overachiever — maximum effort, competitiveness, know-how and pride despite less-than-special speed, size and strength. He is exceptional utilizing leverage vs. the run and has found his ideal playing weight after dropping 20 pounds in two seasons. DT Ryan Pickett stepped up after arriving in free agency. He's the run-stuffer in the interior rotation and is powerful enough to take on and shed double teams. DT Corey Williams usurped a starter's role as the season wore on, filling Jenkins' role inside by shooting gaps and getting upfield with his quickness.

First-round pick Justin Harrell, disruptive but injury prone, provides competition for Williams and depth with Jenkins shifting outside. DT Colin Cole can also get after the passer but is inconsistent and a liability vs. the run. DE Jason Hunter, DE Mike Montgomery and DT Johnny Jolly are young and raw but add depth, energy and upside.

**LINEBACKERS** • MLB Nick Barnett continues to play with intensity and competitiveness — which earned him a six-year contract extension in April — and he took steps to improve his tendency to over-pursue and get out of position. He can certainly be exploited in coverage, but he doesn't quit



chasing, and he exhibited toughness in playing with a broken hand for four games down the stretch in '06. WLB A.J. Hawk was just about everything the team expected by season's end. Hawk has a knack for making big plays, plays smart and intense, rarely misses a chance to wrap up and is effective on the blitz. Hawk did struggle running with pass catchers in space. Still, he quickly gained the respect of his veteran teammates and looks every bit like the franchise cornerstone on defense. SLB Brady Poppinga, a former DE, made it back from reconstructive knee surgery, appearing in all 16 games. He struggled dropping back and covering initially, but his gradual improvement to finish the season suggests that had more to do with his recovery and inexperience at the second level than his ability. His playing intelligence and sound technique indicate the position change will pay dividends long term.

After an impressive rookie training camp, Abdul Hodge got little opportunity to play behind Barnett. He did receive one start and was exposed — missing tackles, failing to get off blocks and breaking down in coverage. He once looked like an eventual starter, and it's early still for the third-rounder, but Hodge may not run well enough to man an outside spot and all three positions appear to be set well into the future. Backup Tracy White is almost exclusively a special-teams ace.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ A revamped secondary with several new parts struggled

with communication initially, but like the rest of the defense, came on strong in the second half. It doesn't get much better than the starting CB duo of Al Harris and Charles Woodson. Harris earned a long-desired contract extension by excelling in man coverage, often against the opponents' top receiver. He won't intimidate anyone with his tackling or run support and is not at his best in zone coverage, but he can bump, run and lock up with the best of them. On the other hand, Woodson isn't the same in coverage as he once was and will get beat, but few are more effective or instinctive making plays on the ball — he tied for the NFC lead in picks with eight. FS Nick Collins had not blossomed in Year

Two until the season finale vs. Chicago (two interceptions, one for a TD). He's typically in the right place at the right time given his athleticism and range, but he appears hesitant at times and hasn't demonstrated the requisite ball skills. In his first year as a Packer, Marquand Manuel was not as fast, athletic or physical as his track record in Seattle suggested. His chemistry and communication in the defensive backfield suffered from a lost training camp due to injury. Marviel Underwood returns from a season-ending injury to compete for the SS job. Rookie Aaron Rouse is a LB-S tweener that could develop into a physical box safety but lacks quickness and cover skills. Inexperienced Patrick Dendy was pressed into regular duty at nickel with mixed results. He demonstrat-

ed some ball skills and was assignment-sound, but he's a relatively ordinary athlete. The Packers signed ex-Giant CB Frank Walker to challenge for that role. He has experience and decent ball skills and will deliver a violent blow, but he overpursues and runs himself out of position regularly. Young DBs such as CB Will Blackmon, S Tyrone Culver and S Atari Bigby will be given chances to compete for snaps as well.

## Special teams

A young roster lacking depth affords very little first-day talent on special teams, and for the second year in a row, the Packers ranked dead last in the *Dallas Morning News*' unofficial special-teams rankings.

**GRADE** PK Dave Rayner was an upgrade replacing Ryan Longwell on kick-offs, but he struggles with field-goal accuracy, especially at Lambeau Field (10-of-16 lifetime). Rookie Mason Crosby should push Rayner for his job. P Jon Ryan ranked in the top third of the NFL in gross average and was a solid holder.

## Summary

Internal improvement is the right approach long term. But with Brett Favre competing on a year-to-year basis, the Pack finishing strong and the conference still generally wide open, the window is open for Green Bay. However, the front office did little to improve an offense lacking game-breakers and a team that had to rally furiously to finish 8-8.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
	CHI	N.O.	@DET	@PHIL	STL	@MIA	ARI	@BUF	@MIN	IL	@SEA	N.Y.	@SF	DET	MINN.	@CHI	
Score	0-26	27-34	31-24	9-31	20-23	34-24	31-14	10-24	23-17	0-35	24-34	10-38	30-19	17-9	9-7	26-7	
Total net yards	267	385	400	318	336	346	383	427	394	120	316	351	420	303	319	373	5458
Passing yards	103	63	60	99	121	155	203	147	47	44	51	149	139	139	46	97	1663
Rushing plays	23	20	340	219	215	191	180	280	347	76	265	202	281	164	273	276	3795
Sacks allowed	3	2	27	28	26	29	39	30	26	16	20	23	34	32	24	34	431
Had intercepted	2	1	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	5	1	2	1	1	1	2	24
Fumbles lost	1	1	2	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	3	2	0	3	2	1	18
Yards penalized	45	31	30	62	41	74	65	36	34	32	61	29	10	69	35	35	689
Punts	6	6	5	5	4	6	2	6	7	10	5	2	5	5	5	5	84

	34:05	28:04	29:20	27:17	30:43	32:01	28:21	25:39	26:21	39:10	36:07	31:27	26:29	26:26	25:21	23:04	29:15
Time of pos.***	36:1	380	424	398	327	448	218	184	312	357	382	441	340	142	104	316	5134
Total net yards	409	46	105	131	118	67	86	120	90	122	235	178	146	58	77	135	1825
Rushing yards	252	332	319	267	209	381	132	64	222	235	147	263	194	84	27	181	3309
Passing yards	36	22	23	27	30	17	25	28	23	40	48	31	25	20	22	24	441
Sacks allowed	4	9	4	2	4	4	5	4	2	1	0	1	6	3	2	46	
Had intercepted	1	1	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	3	2	2	1	5	23	
Fumbles lost	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	10
Yards penalized	25	14	46	53	78	70	68	50	49	38	25	20	25	37	68	44	710
Punts	4	4	5	5	5	4	6	8	7								

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	83
RUSHING																	
Favre	1-0-0		1-(-5)-0	1-0-0		1-14-0	4-(-5)-1	2-0-0	2-(-2)-0		2-(-1)-0	3-33-0	3-(-3)-0	2-(-1)-0	1-(-1)-0	23-29-1	
Green	20-110-0	16-42-0	22-63-0			18-118-1	21-108-2	23-122-0	22-55-0	13-28-0	14-44-1	14-102-0	21-77-1	22-79-0	18-42-0	266-1059-5	
Herron		3-5-0		1-0-0	20-108-1	2-5-0	2-12-0	5-25-0	2-(-6)-0				1-2-0		1-1-0	37-150-1	
Morency			3-3-0	26-99-0	6-15-0	7-12-0	11-101-0			1-5-0	4-8-0	6-14-0	7-60-0	7-54-0	1-10-0	31-180-1	

PASSING **										1-50	4-60	6-140	7-690	7-542	4-40	9-370	91-421-2
Favro	15-29-2	31-55-1	25-36-0	22-44-2	22-39-0	19-35-0	17-25-0	28-47-2	24-42-0	5-15-0	22-36-3	24-47-2	22-34-0	20-37-3	26-50-2	21-42-1	343-613-18
	170-0	340-3	340-3	205-0	220-1	206-2	180-1	287-1	347-2	73-0	266-1	214-1	293-2		285-0	285-1	3885-18
A. Rodgers				2-3-0						4-12-0							6-15-0
				14-0						32-0							15-0

Driver	7-95-0	8-153-0	3-20-1	5-50-0	3-24-0	10-93-1	5-48-0	9-96-1	6-191-1	2-42-0	3-89-1	3-41-1	9-160-1	7-70-0	9-99-0	3-23-1	92-1295-8
Ferguson	2-17-0	1-4-1	2-10-0														5-31-1
Franks		3-18-0	3-39-0	3-32-0	2-16-0	1-18-0											25-232-0
Green	3-22-0	6-48-0	8-68-1				2-27-0	1-8-0	2-22-0	1-6-0	1-9-0	3-18-0	1-11-0		5-43-0		46-373-1
Henderson			1-13-0					1-11-0	6-28-0	1-0-0	5-39-0	4-38-0	1-13-0	7-44-0	4-27-0	4-39-0	12-62-0
Herron	1-16-0	1-6-1	2-25-0		5-20-0			7-57-0	2-11-1			3-21-0	7-51-0			1-3-0	29-211-2
Holiday															1-4-0		9-126-0
Jennings	1-5-0	6-67-1	3-101-1	5-86-0	5-105-1	1-14-0		5-69-0	3-38-0	1-26-0	6-50-0	2-14-0	1-3-0	3-36-0		5-87-0	45-632-3
Lee	1-25-0		1-32-0					1-(5)-0		1-16-0			5-50-0	1-5-0	1-2-0		10-150-0
D. Martin		6-44-0	1-8-0	1-0-0	1-4-0	2-31-1	4-48-1	4-51-0	2-12-0				1-11-0	1-15-0	3-41-0	1-15-0	21-198-2
R. Martin						2-25-0	2-26-0										21-358-1
Morency				6-19-0	2-9-0				3-47-0		1-26-0	1-5-0	2-42-1		3-69-0	7-118-0	28-153-0
										2-9-0	2-31-0	3-43-0	1-1-0				

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Green Bay Packers

Lambeau Field Atrium, 1265 Lombardi Avenue  
Green Bay, WI 54304  
920/569-7500  
Official Website: www.packers.com  
Stadium: Lambeau Field  
Capacity: 72,922  
Playing surface: DD GrassMaster (natural grass)  
2006 record: 8-8; Second in NFC North

Mike McCarthy

Chairman and CEO: Bob Harlan; President and COO: John Jones; Executive vice president/general manager/director of football operations: Ted Thompson; Director of college scouting: John Dorsey; Director of pro personnel: Reggie McKenzie; Personnel analyst to general manager: John Schneider

Head coach: Mike McCarthy

Assistant coaches: Edgar Bennett, running backs; James Campen, offensive line; Tom Clements, quarterbacks; Jerry Fontenot, asst. offensive line; Rock Gulickson, strength and conditioning; Carl Hairston, defensive ends; Brandon Johnson, strength and conditioning assistant; Ty Knott, offensive quality control; Eric Lewis, defensive quality control; Mark Lovat, asst. strength and conditioning; Ben McAdoo, tight ends; Winston Moss, asst. head coach/defense; Robert Nunn, defensive tackles; Joe Philbin, offensive coordinator; Jimmy Robinson, wide receivers; Bob Sanders, defensive coordinator; Kurt Schottenheimer, secondary; Shawn Sloum, asst. special teams; Mike Stock, special-teams coordinator; Lionel Washington, defensive nickel package/cornerbacks.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

WR <b>85 JENNINGS</b>	87 Ferguson	19 Bodiford	11 Clowney*
OLT <b>76 CLIFTON</b>	73 Colledge	70 Walter	78 Barbre*
OLG <b>73 COLLEDGE</b>	64 Palmer	70 Walter	
C <b>63 WELLS</b>	72 Spitz		
ORG <b>72 SPITZ</b>	75 Moll	64 Palmer	
ORT <b>65 TAUSCHER</b>	75 Moll	62 Coston	78 Barbre*
TE <b>88 FRANKS</b>	86 Lee	84 Humphrey	49 Alcorn
WR <b>80 DRIVER</b>	82 Martin	18 Holiday	89 Jones*
QB <b>4 FAVRE</b>	12 Rodgers	7 Martin	
RB <b>34 MORENCY</b>	32 Jackson*	23 Herron	32 Beach
FB <b>40 MIREX</b>	35 Hall*		

## DEFENSE

DLE <b>74 KAMPMAN</b>	57 Hunter		
DT <b>79 PICKETT</b>	93 Jolly		
DT <b>99 C. WILLIAMS</b>	91 Harrell*	90 Cole	77 Jenkins
DRE <b>77 JENKINS</b>	94 Gbaja-Biamila		
SLB <b>51 POPPINGA</b>	57 Hunter		
MLB <b>56 BARNETT</b>	55 Hodge	35 Hall*	
WLB <b>50 HAWK</b>	59 White		
LCB <b>21 WOODSON</b>	43 Dendy	27 Blackmon	
RCB <b>31 HARRIS</b>	41 Walker	24 Bush	
SS <b>22 MANUEL</b>	25 Underwood	20 Bigby	37 Rouse*
FS <b>36 COLLINS</b>	29 Culver	26 Peprah	

## SPECIALISTS

P <b>9 RYAN</b>			
PK <b>16 RAYNER</b>	2 Crosby*		
H <b>9 RYAN</b>			
PR <b>19 BODIFORD</b>	27 Blackmon	89 Jones*	21 Woodson
KR <b>19 BODIFORD</b>	27 Blackmon	11 Clowney*	23 Herron
LS <b>60 DAVIS</b>	75 Moll		

\* Rookie

## PACKERS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
49	Alcorn, Zac	TE	6-4	255	2	Black Hills State	6/0
	Babb, Jerry	QB	6-3	225	R	Louisiana-Lafayette	
78	Barbre, Allen	OT	6-4	300	R	Missouri Southern St.	
56	Barnett, Nick	LB	6-2	232	5	Oregon State	15/15
71	Barry, Kevin	OT	6-4	332	6	Arizona	0/0
32	Beach, Arliss	RB	5-10	222	2	Kentucky	0/0
20	Bigby, Atari	S	5-11	211	2	Central Florida	5/0
	Birdine, Larry	DE	6-3	265	R	Oklahoma	
55	Bishop, Desmond	LB	6-2	241	R	California	
27	Blackmon, Will	CB	6-0	202	2	Boston College	4/0
19	Bodiford, Shaun	WR	5-11	186	2	Portland State	6/0
67	Bourke, Josh	OT	6-7	314	2	Grand Valley State	0/0
13	Brewster, Carlton	WR	5-11	208	1	Ferris State	0/0
24	Bush, Jarrett	CB	6-0	197	2	Utah State	16/0
76	Clifton, Chad	OT	6-5	320	8	Tennessee	15/15
11	Clowney, David	WR	6-0	188	R	Virginia Tech	
90	Cole, Colin	DT	6-1	315	3	Iowa	15/3
73	Colledge, Daryn	OG-OT	6-4	305	2	Boise State	16/15
36	Collins, Nick	S	5-11	200	3	Bethune-Cookman	16/16
62	Coston, Junius	OG-OT	6-3	313	3	North Carolina A&T	1/0
2	Crosby, Mason	PK	6-1	212	R	Colorado	
29	Culver, Tyrone	S	6-1	200	2	Fresno State	14/0
60	Davis, Rob	LS	6-3	284	12	Shippensburg	16/0
43	Dendy, Patrick	CB	6-0	190	3	Rice	12/3
80	Driver, Donald	WR	6-0	190	9	Alcorn State	16/16
4	Favre, Brett	QB	6-2	222	17	Southern Mississippi	16/16
87	Ferguson, Robert	WR	6-1	210	7	Texas A&M	4/1
83	Francies, Chris	WR	6-1	193	2	Texas-El Paso	7/0
88	Franks, Bubba	TE	6-6	265	7	Miami (Fla.)	16/14
94	Gbaja-Biamila, Kabee	DE	6-4	247	8	San Diego State	16/13
	Goodwell, Tim	LB	6-0	237	1	Memphis	0/0
35	Hall, Korey	LB	6-0	236	R	Boise State	
91	Harrell, Justin	DT	6-4	310	R	Tennessee	
31	Harris, Al	CB	6-1	188	10	Texas A&M-Kingsville	16/16
44	Harris, Clark	TE	6-5	256	R	Rutgers	
53	Havner, Spencer	LB	6-3	244	1	UCLA	0/0
50	Hawk, A.J.	LB	6-1	247	2	Ohio State	16/16
23	Herron, Noah	RB	5-11	218	3	Northwestern	16/0
52	Hodge, Abdul	LB	6-0	229	2	Iowa	8/1
18	Holiday, Carlyle	WR	6-2	217	2	Notre Dame	4/0
84	Humphrey, Tory	TE	6-2	250	2	Central Michigan	7/0
57	Hunter, Jason	DE	6-4	250	2	Appalachian State	14/0
32	Jackson, Brandon	RB	5-10	212	R	Nebraska	
77	Jenkins, Cullen	DE-DT	6-2	295	4	Central Michigan	14/5
85	Jennings, Greg	WR	5-11	197	2	Western Michigan	14/11
	Johnson, Rory	LB	6-1	237	R	Mississippi	
93	Jolly, Johnny	DT	6-3	312	2	Texas A&M	6/0
89	Jones, James	WR	6-1	207	R	San Jose State	
74	Kampman, Aaron	DE	6-4	270	6	Iowa	16/16
86	Lee, Donald	TE	6-4	248	5	Mississippi State	15/2
61	Leffew, Travis	OG-OT	6-4	292	1	Louisville	0/0
6	Lonie, David	P	6-5	210	1	California	0/0
	Malone, Antonio	CB	6-0	188	1	Toledo	0/0
22	Manuel, Marquand	S	6-0	209	6	Florida	16/16
7	Martin, Ingle	QB	6-2	220	2	Furman	1/0
82	Martin, Ruvel	WR	6-4	210	2	Saginaw Valley State	13/3
40	Mirex, Brandon	FB	6-0	236	3	Pittsburgh	10/3
75	Moll, Tony	OT-OG	6-5	304	2	Nevada	16/10
96	Montgomery, Michael	DE	6-5	265	3	Texas A&M	11/0
34	Morency, Vernand	RB	5-10	212	3	Oklahoma State	13/2
	Muir, Daniel	DL	6-2	307	R	Kent State	
	Murray, Pat	OG	6-3	315	R	Truman State	
47	Nnabuife, Alvin	S	6-1	212	1	Southern Methodist	0/0
64	Palmer, Tony	OG-C	6-2	311	2	Missouri	6/0
26	Peprah, Charlie	S	5-11	202	2	Alabama	8/0
79	Pickett, Ryan	DT	6-2	322	6	Ohio State	16/16
28	Pope, P.J.	RB	5-9	212	2	Bowling Green	1/0
51	Poppinga, Brady	LB	6-3	245	3	Brigham Young	16/12
	Powdrell, Ryan	FB	5-11	255	R	USC	
48	Randall, Marcus	LB	6-1	232	1	Louisiana State	0/0
16	Rayner, Dave	PK	6-2	210	3	Michigan State	16/0
12	Rodgers, Aaron	QB	6-2	223	3	California	2/0
37	Rouse, Aaron	S	6-4	223	R	Virginia Tech	
17	Russell, Calvin	WR	6-0	190	1	Tuskegee	0/0
9	Ryan, Jon	P	6-0	202	2	Univ. of Regina (Canada)	16/0
68	Scandrett, Devarick	DT	6-4	322	1	Middle Tenn. State	0/0
	Simpson, Juwan	LB	6-3	227	R	Alabama	
72	Spitz, Jason	OG-C	6-3	300	2	Louisville	14/13
68	Stenavich, Adam	OG	6-4	308	1	Michigan	0/0
65	Tauscher, Mark	OT	6-3	315	8	Wisconsin	11/11
69	Thompson, Orrin	OT	6-6	322	1	Duke	0/0
25	Underwood, Marviel	S	5-10	200	3	San Diego State	0/0
41	Walker, Frank	CB	5-11	196	5	Tuskegee	11/1
70	Walter, Tyson	OT-OG	6-4	300	6	Ohio State	5/0
63	Wells, Scott	C	6-2	295	4	Tennessee	16/16
59	White, Tracy	LB	6-0	234	5	Howard	14/0
99	Williams, Corey	DT	6-4	313	4	Arkansas State	16/11
38	Williams, Tramon	CB	5-11	182	1	Louisiana Tech	0/0
21	Woodson, Charles	CB	6-1	200	10	Michigan	16/16
42	Wynn, DeShawn	RB	5-10	232	R	Florida	

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	at N.Y. Giants	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	San Diego	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	Chicago	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 14	Washington	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	BYE	
Oct. 29	at Denver	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Minnesota	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	Carolina	1 p.m.
Nov. 22	at Detroit	12:30 p.m.
Nov. 29	at Dallas	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 9	Oakland	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	at St. Louis	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Chicago	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	Detroit	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Green Bay

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Chicago	(+3.5)	0-26
Sept. 17	New Orleans	(+1)	27-34
Sept. 24	At Detroit	(+6)	31-24
Oct. 2	At Philadelphia	(+12)	9-31
Oct. 8	St. Louis	(+2.5)	20-23
Oct. 15	BYE		
Oct. 22	At Miami	(+6)	34-24
Oct. 29	Arizona	(-4)	31-14
Nov. 5	At Buffalo	(+3.5)	10-24
Nov. 12	At Minnesota	(+5)	23-17
Nov. 19	New England	(+5.5)	0-35
Nov. 27	At Seattle	(+10)	24-34
Dec. 3	New York Jets	(-1)	10-38
Dec. 10	At San Francisco	(+4)	30-19
Dec. 17	Detroit	(-6)	17-9
Dec. 21	Minnesota	(-4)	9-7
Dec. 31	At Chicago	(+3)	26-7



# DETROIT LIONS

TOMASSO DIROSA / SPORTPICS



WR ROY WILLIAMS

PREDICTED RECORD: **6-10** 3rd place / NFC North

Despite the arrival of Rod Marinelli, it looked very much like the same old Lions. Detroit began the 2006 season with five straight losses and finished 3-13 for its sixth consecutive season with double-digit losses.

However, Marinelli won over management and much of the locker room with his no-nonsense, passionate approach and has clearly been given the authority to rebuild the roster in his own image.

To that end, he and offensive coordinator Mike Martz have aggressively

turned over the roster, shipping out veterans that don't fit the mold with new blood that more often than not has ties to Marinelli's Bucs defense or Martz's Rams offense. The effect remains to be seen, but in Detroit — where personnel decisions have long lacked a clear vision — at least it's a plan.

## Offense

The Lions' offense was a study in Mike Martz's system gone bad. When it works, such as in St. Louis circa '98, it's a thing of beauty. However, when it doesn't, as in the Motor City circa '06, it's unbalanced and far too turnover-prone. Behind veteran QB Jon Kitna, they ranked seventh in the NFL

in passing. However, an ineffective and injury-depleted offensive line allowed more sacks than anyone but the Raiders and essentially caused the Lions to rank third in giveaways, 30th in third-down efficiency and dead last in rushing. Still, with Martz's foundation in place, there is internal optimism that significant growth will occur in Year Two.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ After years of primarily carrying the clipboard, Jon Kitna handed in his first career 4,000-yard season and impressed both Mike Martz and Rod Marinelli enough that they were quick to absolve him of most of his 22 interceptions and 11 fumbles. His appeal is his experience, leadership and accuracy when given



time to throw, but he lacks athleticism, mobility and the arm strength to force balls into tight coverage. Without a stable pocket, he locks into his primary targets and doesn't possess the spontaneity and agility to create plays where they do not exist. The

Lions tabbed local boy Drew Stanton in the second round to be their quarterback of the future and promptly traded Josh McCown to Oakland. Stanton has all the physical measurements and tools, but needs to improve his accuracy and consistency. His first challenge will be to digest Mike Martz's sophisticated playbook while cad-dying for Kitna. Veteran backup Dan Orlovsky's size, accuracy and presence intrigues Martz, but he remains a project.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ The offensive line was more to blame for the Lions' 32nd-ranked rushing offense than were the backs. Kevin Jones is willing to lower his shoulder and battles for whatever positive yardage exists, but he's not the creative type to make a bad line look good. He exceeded expectations with his ability catching the ball out of the backfield. His injury, a Lisfranc fracture, may keep him sidelined through training camp and into the '07 season, prompting the Lions to add insurance in the form of Tatum Bell and T. J. Duckett. Arriving in a trade from Denver, Bell failed to shed the label that he is more effective the less he is used. As his reps increased, his nagging injuries and slippery hands resurfaced. His clear assets are speed and home-run ability, but his ceiling has not been reached because of concerns about his durability, blocking proficiency and ability to gain the tough yards inside. Conversely, Duckett has come to be regarded as a short-yardage specialist. He fell out of favor in Atlanta — and barely registered a ripple in Washington — but returns to a locale where he shined as a Michigan State tailback. He is a powerful complement to Bell's slashing, off-tackle running style and could certainly help Detroit's 30th-ranked red-zone offense. Neither Bell nor Duckett has shown the receiving ability required in Mike Martz's offense.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Roy Williams made no secret his desire to play Torrey Holt's role in Mike Martz's offense, and he took a huge stride toward that end in his first career 1,000-yard campaign. There isn't much the four-year veteran can't do on the field; he's physical enough to post up most corners, fast enough to run away from defenders and athletic enough to make acrobatic catches all over the field. He played in all 16 games, missing time in only one tilt, to dispel questions about his durability. He can be done in by his bravado, and lapses in focus and concentration still at times result in inconsistent hands and pass routes. Remarkably, Williams is no longer the most physically gifted receiver on the roster, not with No. 2 overall pick Calvin Johnson coming on board. Johnson has an

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
WR **ROY WILLIAMS**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
LB **ERNE SIMS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
FS **DANIEL BULLOCKS**

Bullocks is an ideal fit in the ball-hawking cover-2, and given a pass rush, will have every chance to turn in game-changing plays.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
MLB:  
**TEDDY LEHMAN vs. PARIS LENON**

Lenon seems to be keeping the seat warm for the banged-up Lehman, whose skill set is better-suited to the demanding "Mike" role.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
RB Tatum Bell, RB T.J. Duckett, CB Travis Fisher, OT George Foster, WR Shaun McDonald, DE Dwayne White.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
CB Dré Bly, CB Jamar Fletcher, DE James Hall, S Terrence Holt, QB Josh McCown, TE Marcus Pollard, WR Mike Williams.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	SCHOOL	PICK
1	Calvin Johnson	WR	Georgia Tech	2
2	Drew Stanton	QB	Michigan State	43
2	Ikaika Alama-Francis	DE	Hawaii	58
2	Gerald Alexander	S	Boise State	61
4	A.J. Davis	CB	North Carolina St.	105
4	Manuel Ramirez	OG	Texas Tech	117
5	Johnny Baldwin	LB	Alabama A&M	158
7	Ramzee Robinson	CB	Alabama	255



elite combination of size (6-4, 237 pounds) and speed (4.37) and the maturity to learn an offense and contribute immediately. Barring injury, he should become a Pro Bowl staple. Converted safety Mike Furrey came in with 21 career catches and remarkably wound up leading the NFC with 98 receptions. His skill set is better-suited to the slot, and that's where he'll shift with Johnson and Williams out wide. He has extremely reliable hands, a great understanding of the offense, and his work ethic and toughness have made him a poster boy for Rod Marinelli's model player. Free-agent acquisition Shaun McDonald fills a void as a fourth option and offers speed from the inside slot and knowledge of Martz's offense.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ An unmitigated disaster in '06, the front five may have as many as three new starters next season. Returning will be stalwarts C Dominic

Raiola and OLT Jeff Backus. Raiola is undersized in almost every matchup, but he makes up for it with competitive fire, passion, aggressiveness and quickness. Not surprisingly, he's more effective in pass protection than he is blowing off the ball to drive bigger tackles backward. Backus isn't the caliber of left tackle that the '06 franchise tag might indicate, but he is dependable, consistent, experienced and both skilled and committed enough to get the job done. By losing more than 30 pounds since his season-ending foot injury, ORG Damien Woody has worked his way back into the picture, but he still has a ways to go with his weight to assure himself a roster spot. Similarly, ORT George Foster didn't live up to his first-round draft status in Denver, but he is a better athlete than the rest of Detroit's options and may benefit from a change of scenery and a more traditional blocking scheme. The Lions added starting experience in OGs Edwin Mulitalo and Zach Piller, although both have struggled physically recently. OG Frank Davis is inexperienced with unpolished mechanics, but Mike Martz called Davis' final two starts of the '06 season "exceptional." OG Stephen Peterman impressed the team late last season, as well.

## Defense

You can only imagine how painful it was for Rod Marinelli to watch his defense rank at or near the bottom of the pack in virtually every salient category. The Tony Dungy disciple was forced to fit a mish-mosh of square pegs from other defensive schemes into his particular Tampa-2. Marinelli did not have the thoroughbreds to run in his speed-driven scheme, and it showed as Detroit gave up 25 points (30th in the NFL) and over 345 yards (28th) per game. To minimize any mixed messages, Marinelli dismissed respected defensive coordinator Donnie Henderson and brought in another Tampa-2 guy in Joe Barry, former Bucs LB coach and Marinelli's son-in-law.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Things went from bad to worse when the Lions lost three of their four starters along the defensive line. They sorely missed two-time Pro Bowl DT Shaun Rogers, arguably the most talented player on the roster. Rogers is a rare specimen who can dominate with both strength and speed. He is a massive body, but he also boasts speed, quickness and the agility to blow by mismatched offensive linemen. However, he was suspended four games in '06 for a supplement he took to meet his weight target, missed the rest of the season recovering from arthroscopic knee surgery and arrived late to voluntary workouts in March — not exactly exuding the "football character" Rod Marinelli demands. Conversely, Cory Redding thrilled the staff after shifting inside in Rogers' absence. He developed into Marinelli's prototype three-technique, negotiating the tight quarters of the interior line with proficiency and demonstrating good hands and disruptive, short-space



quickness. The Lions are counting on both Kalimba Edwards and free-agent addition Dewayne White to take a step forward into reliable, every-down starters. Edwards is a physical specimen with the requisite edge speed, but he freezes and thinks too much on Sunday. White, a former Marinelli protégé in Tampa, was brought in specifically to upgrade team speed on the perimeter. He's versatile, tough and willing to put the work in. Former second-round pick DT Shaun Cody now becomes a rotation tackle. He is undersized and is a better complement to Rogers than to Redding. DE Corey Smith made an impression as a street free agent. Marinelli is likely salivating at the untapped potential of second-round DE Ikaika Alama-Francis, who is raw but has the strength and ability to be dominant. Still, he is inexperienced and durability is a major concern.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Detroit broke a trend by drafting defense with its first-round pick in '06, and WLB Ernie Sims epitomizes what Rod Marinelli is looking for. He plays the game at high speed and with intensity on every snap. He drops and runs well in coverage and delivers a blow vs. the run, so much so that he's been labeled reckless with his body, at times. Boss Bailey's experiment in the middle failed, and he will be moved back to the strong side and share time with rangy Alex Lewis. Bailey is as athletic as they come and can go sideline to sideline, but he'll overrun plays, fill the wrong gap and, in the middle, he played hesitant and without instinct. Detroit is hoping for a

rebound from Teddy Lehman, who struggled to make it back from a Lisfranc injury in '06. He and Paris Lenon will battle for the critical "Mike" position, but Lehman is the better athlete and more suited to the position, if his health cooperates.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Two-time Pro Bowler Dré Bly was a poor fit in the scheme and was sent packing, leaving Fernando Bryant as the only experienced corner. Bryant isn't the player he once was and has struggled with injuries. Still, after a demotion in '05, he played physical and well enough in zone coverage and has won Rod Marinelli over with his effort. Athletic nickel back Stanley Wilson improved as much as anyone on the roster, but not enough to earn Bly's job. Instead, the Lions signed ex-Ram Travis Fisher. He fits the cover-2 mold with his physical, pressing style but has to stay on the field after three straight seasons with significant injuries. SS Kenoy Kennedy can lay the wood in run support and over the middle, but like a home-run hitter, he'll swing and miss often as a result. He's much better-suited in the box than he is in coverage. Second-year FS Daniel Bullocks officially replaces Terrence Holt, and like Sims, he's a natural fit for Marinelli: tireless, passionate, instinctive, quick to react, and plays downhill. He struggles running in man coverage, but he's certainly agile and fast enough to get over the top on his half of the field. Second-round rookie S Gerald

Alexander is another Marinelli type, athletic and relentless, and has the versatility to play corner in the cover-2. Fourth-round CB A.J. Davis also fits the zone scheme and provides depth.

## Special teams

The Lions return the core of their special-teams unit — including veteran PK Jason Hanson, return specialist Eddie Drummond and P Nick Harris — but they sustained a big loss on the sideline. Long-time special-teams coach Chuck Priefer hangs them up after 10 seasons in Detroit and 44 years in coaching. Hanson is as reliable as ever, but his waning leg strength is evidenced on kickoffs and with all four of his misses coming from beyond 40 yards. Harris specializes in hang time rather than placement. A definite home-run hitter, Drummond isn't coming off his best season, but his WR responsibilities should diminish and focus should return.

## Summary

The roster isn't devoid of talent, but with a deficient offensive line and several gaping holes on defense, a worst-to-first turnaround looks like a long shot. No one is expecting a miracle, but Rod Marinelli will have to show signs of improvement on the field and in the standings to continue receiving the unconditional support he's been granted thus far in his tenure in Motown.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	SEA	@CHI	DAL	@STL	@MINN	DUTZ	@PHI										
Score	6-9	7-34	24-31	34-41	17-28	20-17	24-31	30-14	13-19	10-17	10-27	21-28	20-30	9-17	21-26	39-31	
Total net yards	251	245	424	370	217	397	386	435	251	281	220	361	280	142	327	362	4949
Rushing yards	38	46	105	93	16	135	125	127	71	68	21	77	-3	58	67	85	1129
Passing yards	213	199	319	277	201	262	261	308	180	213	199	284	283	84	260	277	3820
Rushing plays	17	14	23	21	11	27	22	27	17	20	10	22	10	20	18	25	304
Sacks allowed	3	6	3	2	5	3	1	3	3	4	8	5	3	6	3	5	63
Had intercepted	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	3	2	0	1	22
Fumbles lost	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	2	3	1	1	0	17
Yards penalized	61	104	46	70	50	40	60	71	40	28	55	70	50	37	92	65	939
Punts	6	6	5	3	6	5	2	2	3	5	6	1	1	5	7	3	66
OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	32:25	33:00	30:40	30:06	36:39	28:19	34:14	27:04	38:49	30:43	34:04	29:17	35:31	33:34	34:43	27:53	32:19
Total net yards	264	383	400	427	336	242	398	319	315	338	395	363	328	303	354	365	5530
Rushing yards	91	89	60	106	135	85	221	165	198	110	186	79	172	139	116	58	2010
Passing yards	173	294	340	321	201	157	177	154	117	228	209	284	156	164	238	307	3520
Rushing plays	26	34	27	27	30	21	42	26	44	29	35	24	44	32	30	21	492
Sacks allowed	5	0	0	1	0	5	2	2	3	1	1	2	1	1	2	4	30
Had intercepted	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	1	12
Fumbles lost	1	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	3	18
Yards penalized	55	93	30	66	40	20	20	76	51	34	100	72	50	69	48	45	969
Punts	5	3	5	4	4	7	2	6	3	5	5	2	4		6	2	68
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Calhoun	2-(-1)-0		0-5-0			2-5-0	3-10-0										7-19-0
Cason										4-20-0	2-6-0						24-94-0
A. Harris										10-40-1	8-15-0				3-6-0	5-31-0	10-31-0
K. Jones	14-35-0	12-44-0	17-81-1	19-93-2	10-8-0	23-127-1	15-86-0	26-110-2	13-44-0	4-8-0		1-12-0	1-0-0	9-18-0	10-44-0	10-29-0	49-158-1
Kitna		1-1-1	5-18-0	1-0-0	1-8-1	2-3-0	3-17-0	1-17-0	4-27-0	1-(-2)-0		19-56-0	9-(-3)-0		7-34-0	1-(-1)-0	181-689-6
												2-9-0				5-25-0	34-156-2
PASSING **																	
Kitna	21-37-0 229-0	23-30-0 230-0	25-40-1 342-2	29-43-2 280-2	23-42-3 225-1	24-36-1 278-1	22-36-2 269-3	20-32-1 321-1	19-30-1 202-1	23-38-1 249-0	22-40-1 252-1	22-38-3 314-1	28-41-3 294-1	16-26-2 135-0	27-45-0 263-3	28-42-1 306-4	372-596-22 4208-21
RECEIVING																	
Bradford	3-36-0									3-54-0	1-16-0	1-12-0	5-40-0				14-164-0
Bryson	1-4-0	1-4-0	2-46-1	2-30-0	2-14-0											1-6-0	8-98-1
Calhoun			1-2-0				1-18-0										2-20-0
Campbell	1-30-0	1-23-0	3-53-0	1-2-0	1-12-1		1-22-0	2-27-0	2-32-1	2-19-0	2-6-1	1-21-0	2-30-0		2-31-1		21-308-4
FitzSimmons								2-35-0									7-71-0
Furrey	5-55-0	6-67-0	3-38-0	8-82-2	3-41-0	3-39-0	9-109-1	4-72-0	2-13-0	6-67-0	7-67-0	9-123-1	9-84-0		4-29-0	1-7-0	17-147-0
Hakim			2-14-0	3-21-0	8-92-0	3-14-0	1-6-0								3-20-0	10-107-1	11-102-1
A. Harris										1-6-0							98-1088-6
K. Jones	5-45-0	6-38-0	5-44-0	5-4-0	4-42-0	6-36-0	6-57-1	4-30-0	9-71-0		1-7-0				5-33-0	5-26-0	4-38-0
Pollard	2-21-0	2-19-0		1-2-0	1-4-0	1-22-0	1-9-0	1-12-0	1-5-0	2-6-0		5-86-0	6-67-1				61-520-2
Schlesinger			2-7-0		3-13-0	1-6-0				2-10-0							12-100-0
M. Williams												1-7-0					8-36-0
R. Williams	3-36-0	6-71-0	7-138-1	9-139-0	1-7-0	10-161-1	2-29-1	6-138-1	5-81-0	5-67-0	6-126-0	3-50-0	6-73-0		3-42-0	2-22-0	8-99-1
														1-11-0	6-79-1	6-104-2	82-1310-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.



**Detroit Lions**

222 Republic Drive  
Allen Park, MI 48101  
313/216-4000  
Official Website: [www.detroitlions.com](http://www.detroitlions.com)  
Stadium: Ford Field  
Capacity: 65,000  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 3-13; Fourth in NFC North

Rod Marinelli

**Owner and chairman:** William Clay Ford; **Vice chairman:** William Clay Ford Jr.

**President and CEO:** Matt Millen; **Executive vice president and COO:** Tom Lewand; **Senior vice president and assistant general manager:** Martin Mayhew; **Director of pro personnel:** Sheldon White; **Director of college scouting:** Scott McEwen

**Head coach:** Rod Marinelli

**Assistant coaches:** Jason Arapoff, coordinator of physical development; Joe Barry, defensive coordinator; Mike Barry, asst. offensive line; Malcolm Blacken, strength and conditioning; Kippy Brown, wide receivers; Pat Carter, tight ends; Don Clemons, defensive assistant; Jim Colletto, offensive line; Joe Cullen, defensive line; Adam Gase, offensive quality control; Sam Gash, asst. special teams; Shawn Jefferson, offensive assistant; Stan Kwan, special teams; Clayton Lopez, defensive backs; Mike Martz, offensive coordinator; Wilbert Montgomery, running backs; Fred Reed, defensive assistant; Phil Snow, linebackers.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART**

OFFENSE				
WR	<b>11 WILLIAMS</b>	84 McDonald	18 Drummond	85 Kasper
OLT	<b>76 BACKUS</b>	73 Scott		
OLG	<b>64 MULITALO</b>	69 Piller	61 F. Davis	71 Ramirez*
C	<b>51 RAIOLA</b>	60 Pearson		
ORG	<b>65 WOODY</b>	67 Saipala	66 Peterman	71 Ramirez*
ORT	<b>72 FOSTER</b>	74 Tucker	68 Stokes	77 Stickdon
TE	<b>89 CAMPBELL</b>	82 FitzSimmons	49 McHugh	28 Sanders
WR	<b>81 JOHNSON*</b>	87 Furrey	80 Ellis	
QB	<b>8 KITNA</b>	6 Orlovsky	5 Stanton	
*RB	<b>34 JONES</b>	28 Bell	45 Duckett	29 Calhoun
FB	<b>49 McHUGH</b>	24 Bryson		
DEFENSE				
DLE	<b>98 EDWARDS</b>	95 DeVries	94 Alama-Francis*	
UT	<b>78 REDDING</b>	75 Cody	93 Parker	
NT	<b>92 ROGERS</b>	62 Pinkney	79 Moore	
DRE	<b>91 WHITE</b>	93 C. Smith	90 Swancutt	
SLB	<b>97 BAILEY</b>	59 Lewis	99 Cannon	
MLB	<b>54 LEHMAN</b>	53 Lenon	52 Baldwin*	
WLB	<b>50 SIMS</b>	55 Curry		
LCB	<b>25 BRYANT</b>	23 K. Smith	33 A. Davis*	
RCB	<b>21 FISHER</b>	33 Wilson		
SS	<b>26 KENNEDY</b>	44 Bashir	42 Alexander*	
FS	<b>27 BULLOCKS</b>	44 Bashir		
SPECIALISTS				
P	<b>2 HARRIS</b>			
PK	<b>4 HANSON</b>			
H	<b>2 HARRIS</b>			
PR	<b>18 DRUMMOND</b>	84 McDonald		
KR	<b>18 DRUMMOND</b>	85 Kasper	80 Ellis	
LS	<b>48 MUHLBACH</b>	51 Raiola		

\* Rookie

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Oakland	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	Minnesota	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	Chicago	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	at Washington	1 p.m.
Oct. 15	BYE	
Oct. 21	Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	at Chicago	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	Denver	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Arizona	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	N.Y. Giants	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 22	Green Bay	12:30 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	Dallas	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	at San Diego	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 23	Kansas City	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Green Bay	1 p.m.

**2006 RESULTS**

Points spread refers to Detroit

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Seattle	(+6)	6-9
Sept. 17	At Chicago	(+7)	7-34
Sept. 24	Green Bay	(-6)	24-31
Oct. 1	At St. Louis	(+5.5)	34-41
Oct. 8	At Minnesota	(+6.5)	17-26
Oct. 15	Buffalo	(+2)	20-17
Oct. 22	At New York Jets	(+4)	24-31
Oct. 29	BYE		
Nov. 5	Atlanta	(+5)	30-14
Nov. 12	San Francisco	(-6.5)	13-19
Nov. 19	At Arizona	(+2.5)	10-17
Nov. 23	Miami	(+2.5)	10-27
Dec. 3	At New England	(+13)	21-28
Dec. 10	Minnesota	(-1)	20-30
Dec. 17	At Green Bay	(+6)	9-17
Dec. 24	Chicago	(+6)	21-26
Dec. 31	At Dallas	(+13.5)	39-31

**LIONS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
94	Alama-Francis, Ikaika	DE	6-5	250	R	Hawaii	
42	Alexander, Gerald	S	6-0	204	R	Boise State	
76	Backus, Jeff	OT	6-5	305	7	Michigan	16/16
97	Bailey, Boss	LB	6-3	235	5	Georgia	16/12
52	Baldwin, Johnny	LB	6-2	232	R	Alabama A&M	
44	Bashir, Idrees	S	6-2	198	6	Memphis	0/0
41	Beckham, Tony	CB	6-1	198	5	Wisconsin-Stout	0/0
28	Bell, Tatum	RB	5-11	213	4	Oklahoma State	13/13
25	Bryant, Fernando	CB	5-11	184	9	Alabama	9/9
24	Bryson, Shawn	RB	6-1	230	9	Tennessee	6/1
27	Bullocks, Daniel	S	6-0	212	2	Nebraska	15/7
29	Calhoun, Brian	RB	5-10	208	2	Wisconsin	7/0
89	Campbell, Dan	TE	6-5	265	8	Texas A&M	16/0
99	Cannon, Anthony	LB	6-0	228	2	Tulane	12/0
36	Cason, Avelon	RB	5-10	204	5	Illinois State	6/2
75	Cody, Shaun	DT	6-4	310	3	USC	6/5
55	Curry, Donté	LB	6-1	240	7	Morris Brown	16/0
33	Davis, A.J.	CB	5-10	192	R	North Carolina State	
61	Davis, Frank	OG	6-3	325	2	South Florida	11/3
95	DeVries, Jared	DE	6-4	275	9	Iowa	14/9
18	Drummond, Eddie	WR	5-9	190	6	Penn State	14/0
45	Duckett, T.J.	RB	6-0	254	6	Michigan State	10/0
98	Edwards, Kalimba	DE	6-6	265	6	S. Carolina	16/10
80	Ellis, Deval	WR	5-10	174	2	Hofstra	9/2
21	Fisher, Travis	CB	5-10	189	6	Central Florida	9/9
82	FitzSimmons, Casey	TE	6-4	258	5	Carroll College	11/2
72	Foster, George	OT	6-5	338	5	Georgia	16/13
87	Furrey, Mike	WR	6-0	195	5	Northern Iowa	16/14
4	Hanson, Jason	PK	6-0	190	16	Washington State	16/0
58	Hargrave, James	LB	5-11	224	1	Connecticut	0/0
70	Harriott, Claude	DE	6-3	260	1	Pittsburgh	0/0
2	Harris, Nick	P	6-2	218	7	California	16/0
40	Hicks, Lamar	CB	6-0	189	1	Iowa State	0/0
81	Johnson, Calvin	WR	6-5	235	R	Georgia Tech	
34	Jones, Kevin	RB	6-0	228	4	Virginia Tech	12/12
85	Kasper, Kevin	WR	6-1	205	5	Iowa	1/1
26	Kennedy, Kenoy	S	6-1	215	8	Arkansas	10/9
8	Kitna, Jon	QB	6-2	220	11	Central Washington	16/16
54	Lehman, Teddy	LB	6-1	238	4	Oklahoma	4/0
53	Lenon, Paris	LB	6-2	235	6	Richmond	16/16
59	Lewis, Alex	LB	6-0	230	4	Wisconsin	11/3
96	Lewis, Marcus	DT	6-3	295	1	Urbana	0/0
43	Matthews, Will	FB	6-3	250	2	Texas	0/0
32	McCann, Dee	CB	5-10	200	1	West Virginia	0/0
84	McDonald, Shaun	WR	5-10	183	5	Arizona State	16/0
49	McHugh, Sean	TE	6-5	265	2	Penn State	6/2
79	Moore, Langston	DT	6-1	305	3	South Carolina	0/0
48	Muhlbach, Don	LS	6-4	265	4	Texas A&M	16/0
64	Mulitalo, Edwin	OG	6-3	345	9	Arizona	4/4
63	Noll, Ben	OG	6-4	315	3	Pennsylvania	0/0
6	Orlovsky, Dan	QB	6-5	230	3	Connecticut	0/0
93	Parker, Marcus	DT	6-2	273	1	New Mexico	0/0
60	Pearson, Dave	C	6-3	287	1	Michigan	2/0
66	Peterman, Stephen	OG	6-4	323	3	Louisiana State	3/2
69	Piller, Zach	OG	6-5	315	9	Florida	3/3
62	Pinkney, Cleveland	DT	6-1	300	3	South Carolina	9/0
35	Pruitt, Etric	DB	6-0	196	3	Southern Miss	0/0
51	Raiola, Dominic	C	6-1	295	7	Nebraska	16/16
71	Ramirez, Manuel	OG	6-3	335	R	Texas Tech	
78	Redding, Cory	DT	6-4	295	5	Texas	16/16
	Rice, Matthew	DE	6-4	256	1	Penn State	0/0
86	Robinson, Marcus	WR	6-3	215	11	South Carolina	10/3
38	Robinson, Ramzee	CB	5-10	186	R	Alabama	
92	Rogers, Shaun	DT	6-4	340	7	Texas	6/6
19	Russell, Cliff	WR	5-11	190	6	Utah	3/0
28	Sanders, Darnell	TE	6-6	270	6	Ohio State	0/0
67	Saipala, Blaine	OG	6-3	315	4	Colorado State	6/4
73	Scott, Jonathan	OT	6-6	318	2	Texas	13/4
15	Shepherd, Edell	WR	6-1	175	4	San Jose State	7/0
39	Sherrell, Anthony	RB	5-9	193	1	Eastern Michigan	0/0
50	Sims, Ernie	LB	6-0	225	2	Florida State	16/16
93	Smith, Corey	DE	6-2	250	5	N.C. State	7/1
23	Smith, Keith	CB	5-11	191	4	McNeese State	16/0
5	Stanton, Drew	QB	6-3	230	R	Michigan State	
77	Stickdon, Clint	OT	6-5	307	1	Cincinnati	1/0
68	Stokes, Barry	OG	6-4	310	10	Eastern Michigan	11/11
90	Swancutt, Bill	DE	6-4	265	3	Oregon State	0/0
74	Tucker, Rex	OT	6-5	315	9	Texas A&M	6/5
91	White, Dewayne	DE	6-2	273	5	Louisville	16/8
11	Williams, Roy	WR	6-3	211	4	Texas	16/16
33	Wilson, Stanley	CB	5-11	189	3	Stanford	13/4
65	Woody, Damien	OG	6-3	340	9	Boston College	5/5



# MINNESOTA VIKINGS



07 KEVIN WILLIAMS

PREDICTED RECORD: **5-11** 4th place / NFC North

The Brad Childress era got off to an impressive start with two wins over 2005 playoff clubs, but it eventually went awry with just two wins in the last 10 outings.

The Vikings' defense is loaded with

Pro Bowl-caliber talent and the league's best run defense, but an offense lacking dynamic weapons

failed to keep the team competitive.

The fruits of the defense's labor earned coordinator Mike Tomlin one

of the most prestigious coaching jobs in the NFL this offseason but cost Minnesota a rising star and a respected locker-room leader.

The pressure is squarely on Childress — as head coach, as an evaluator of personnel, and as an offensive mind — as he continues to implement the system that made him a success while helping build an annual contender in Philadelphia.

## Offense

The Vikings invested quite a bit on this side of the ball last offseason, and in fair-

ness, RB Chester Taylor and OLG Steve Hutchinson were not the root of the team's problems. However, the offense was an unmitigated disaster, ranking 23rd in total yardage, 26th in scoring, 26th in first downs and 28th in third-down efficiency. QB Brad Johnson struggled and was made a scapegoat and released this offseason, ensuring a change under center and more growing pains for the Purple. Fair or not, top draft pick Adrian Peterson will be looked upon as the savior.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ At season's end, Brad Childress announced an open competition for the '07 starting gig between '06 second-rounder Tarvaris Jackson and veteran backup Brooks Bollinger. Jackson saw action in



four games (two starts) but remains raw and something of a project. He has a cannon for an arm and has the physical build to stand tall in the pocket with presence. He is accurate, if protected, and can buy extra time and make plays with his feet. However, his mechanics, decision-making, poise and willingness to hang in a collapsing pocket and ability to read defenses all need work if he's to become a starting NFL quarterback. Jackson's maturity and

work ethic have developed significantly throughout his young career, suggesting he'll put the effort in to do so. Without question, he has more upside long term than

Bollinger, who has a firm grasp of Childress' offense and is a decent athlete, but his arm strength is limited. With only nine career starts, Bollinger doesn't exactly qualify as a safe, experienced option to Jackson, either. Drew Henson was brought in as a third-string project.

**RUNNING BACKS** • The Vikings added the game-breaker their offense lacked when explosive RB Adrian Peterson slipped to them at the seventh overall draft pick. Peterson has a rare size and speed combination with home-run potential on any given snap. He's precisely the kind of competitor who is willing and seeking to carry an offense on his back. His two alleged weaknesses are durability and pass-catching ability, and fortunately for Minnesota, their '06 leading rusher, Chester Taylor, can help in both arenas.

A career backup, Taylor ran with power, elusiveness and purpose. His size suggests he's more of a scat back, and with Peterson in the mix, his pass-catching skills and complementary running style will help keep Peterson fresh and healthy. Taylor himself wore down to some degree, with nicks and fumbles becoming an issue late in the season, but Peterson's presence eliminates that concern. Mewelde Moore is shifty, with terrific hands and vision after the catch, but he is most valuable in the return game. FB Tony Richardson returns from a season-ending arm injury to provide lead blocking, check-down aid in the passing game and leadership in an inexperienced huddle.

**RECEIVERS** • The seventh overall pick in the 2005 draft, Troy Williamson joined Brad Johnson as primary fall guys for the offense's troubles. After a hot start, he suffered a nasty case of the drops, lost his confidence and the trust of his quarterback and never recovered. Williamson's strength is his speed, but he's hardly a complete receiver. His route-running needs refinement, and he had difficulty reading the football, let alone catching it.

Williamson now believes vision problems were the cause and has been working with Nike and the Vikings toward a non-surgical fix.

Second-rounder Sidney Rice is also a South Carolina product, but he offers a different skill set than Williamson with his size and physical play. He lacks speed and

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **ADRIAN PETERSON**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DT **PAT WILLIAMS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**CB CEDRIC GRIFFIN**  
After emerging quietly in his rookie season, Griffin will make his presence felt with his physical play opposite Antoine Winfield.

**POSITION BATTLE**

**QB:**  
**TARVARIS JACKSON vs. BROOKS BOLLINGER**

The open competition under center not only has major implications for the '07 Vikings, but also for Brad Childress' regime.

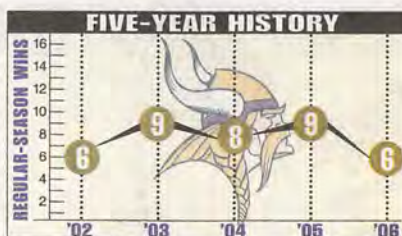
**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
S Mike Doss, TE Visanthe Shiancoe, WR Bobby Wade.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
LB Napoleon Harris, WR Bethel Johnson, QB Brad Johnson, OT Mike Rosenthal, CB Fred Smoot, TE Jermaine Wiggins.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Adrian Peterson	RB	Oklahoma	7
2	Sidney Rice	WR	South Carolina	44
3	Marcus McCauley	CB	Fresno State	72
4	Brian Robison	DE	Texas	102
5	Aundrea Allison	WR	East Carolina	146
6	Rufus Alexander	OLB	Oklahoma	176
7	Tyler Thigpen	QB	Coastal Carolina	217
7	Chandler Williams	WR	Florida Intl.	233



is somewhat immature but fights for the ball and is creative after the catch. Former Titan Bobby Wade is a prototypical inside slot guy and can also be productive after the catch — both primary skills that suit Brad Childress' offense well. Still, Wade isn't dynamic enough to be relied on as anything more than a No. 3. Billy McMullen has good hands and knows Childress' system from his time in Philly but isn't a great athlete. Rookie Aundrea Allison is a project. Seeking more play-making ability, TE Visanthe Shiancoe arrived in free agency to be a primary pass-catcher. He can stretch the middle of the field with his speed, but he lacks strength and struggles with injuries.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The arrival of Steve Hutchinson was intended to take a fairly solid group and make it dominant. Hutchinson wasn't as world-beating as he was in his final seasons in Seattle, but by year's end, he, OLT Bryant McKinnie and C Matt Birk had come together as a cohe-

sive unit. McKinnie still gets beat more than a man of his size and athleticism should, but Hutchinson's passion for plowing off the ball and finishing opponents began to rub off on the less aggressive McKinnie in the second half of the season. Birk's return to health didn't hurt, either. After two star-crossed seasons, he regained his status as one of the top centers in the game. The Vikings had hoped ORT Marcus Johnson would take a step forward and grow into his athleticism in his second year, but he took several steps back. He missed assignments, was beaten regularly by pass rushers, failed to finish in the ground game and eventually lost all confidence. Johnson was benched in

Week 12 and may have lost the job to Ryan Cook, a second-rounder in '06 who has size and versatility, but he is not real nimble and his technique needs refinement. ORG Artis Hicks was brought in for his familiarity with Brad Childress but hardly set the world on fire.

## Defense

The Vikings' defense was frighteningly good vs. the run, threatening the NFL's all-time record for fewest yards allowed before Steven Jackson's 142 rushing yards in Week 17. In fact, several opponents simply surrendered on the ground, opting instead to throw on every down. That, along with an ineffective pass rush, earned Minnesota the league's worst pass defense, despite an otherwise solid secondary. Mike Tomlin's departure paved the way for the team to bring in another Tampa-2 disciple in Leslie Frazier, who coached defensive backs for the Super Bowl champion Colts last season.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • The clear strength of the team is its interior defensive line, where Pat Williams and Kevin Williams combine to form arguably the best inside duo in the NFL. They complement each other extremely well; Pat is the oversized run-stuffer who can take on and shed double-teams without giving ground, while Kevin has the quickness and burst to get upfield and disrupt the offense with pressure. Kevin's sack total suffered because of a high ankle sprain that he played through at midseason without complaint or drawing attention. The Vikings need him to be healthy and dominant in order to attract extra attention and single up their edge rushers. The team lost DLE Erasmus James to a torn ACL in Week Two, and DRE Kenechi Udezue switched sides but struggled to step up against opponents' best blockers. He gets off the ball adequately — leading the team in tackles for loss in '06 and ranking second in hurries — but he simply doesn't finish at the quarterback; he recorded zero sacks in

15 starts. James has been slow to recover and may not be 100 percent for training camp. Darrion Scott is big and aggressive and held up well in Udezue's spot. Still, despite leading the team in sacks, he's better-suited as a rotation end rather than one relied on to rush the passer. Fourth-round



DE Brian Robison is athletic, competitive, has explosive take-off and is polished enough to see the field early in his rookie season.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ The Vikes got bounce-back efforts out of both E.J. Henderson and Napoleon Harris, but they couldn't afford to keep both long term. Henderson was the choice, and he'll likely shift back to Harris' spot in the middle while '06 first-rounder Chad Greenway debuts on the weak side after missing his rookie season with a knee injury. Henderson has struggled in the past with the play-calling and coverage responsibilities at the "Mike" spot, but his play in the cover-2 in '06 — he led the team in tackles — earned him the staff's trust and a new contract. Greenway's speed and instincts in coverage make him a natural fit at the "Will." He's fluid, active, competitive, intelligent and is a maximum effort guy — the team had to pull

Greenway back at times because he was rehabbing so aggressively. SLB Ben Leber was a free-agent find who proved tough to take off the field in nickel sets because of his pass-rushing ability. His field intelligence gave pause to consider shifting him to the middle spot. Backup Dontarrius Thomas has yet to play up to his athleticism, and his struggles in coverage won't do him favors in the cover-2's regular drops.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ The league's worst pass defense had much more to do with its

impenetrable run unit and its lackluster pass rush than it did a leaky secondary. CB Antoine Winfield continued his stellar yet underappreciated play as arguably the league's most physical corner. His press coverage and willing run support make him ideal for the scheme, and his toughness and willingness to tell it like it is have made him a locker-room leader. It was Winfield who stepped forward and called out the offense for not carrying its weight, and it was telling that his comments were not construed as arrogant or divisive. Cedric Griffin, a second-round pick last year, is cut from the same tough-minded cloth as Winfield and has more size; he supplanted Fred Smoot in the starting lineup at midseason and will hold the No. 2 spot heading into '07. Dovonte Edwards held the nickel role, ahead of Griffin, until an arm injury landed him on I.R. before the season even began.

He's undersized but quick and athletic with good ball skills and is suited to run with speed on the outside. Rookie CB Marcus McCauley has a lot more talent than his third-round draft spot suggests, and Leslie Frazier may be just the coach to maximize it. SS Darren Sharper remains a ball hawk with great play-making instincts and still has plenty of range to man his portion of the field in the two-deep zone. After being released by the Saints last summer, Dwight Smith stepped into a starting role after Tank Williams' season ended before it started (knee). Smith's knack for making plays was welcome in Minnesota — he tied

Sharper and Winfield for team honors in picks and was third with nine passes defended — but his off-the-field troubles conflicted with Brad Childress' "culture of accountability." Williams and Mike Doss are physical box safeties who will challenge for playing time if recovered from their respective knee injuries. Greg Blue is a massive hitter who can help in short-yardage and goal-line packages.

## Special teams

Between Bobby Wade and Mewelde Moore, the return game is in solid hands. Moore averaged 10.1 yards per punt return, and although Wade has handled those duties in the past, Moore has better hands. PK Ryan Longwell paid dividends in his first year, but all four of his misses were from beyond 40 yards, and his distance suffered on kickoffs. He'll turn 33 this season, and it's fair to question how much pop is left in his leg. P Chris Kluwe is another year removed from ACL surgery that seemed to hold him back a year ago.

## Summary

Between their inexperience at quarterback and lack of playmakers out wide, Minnesota will be one-dimensional no matter how potentially dominant its ground game is. They have the defense to contend, and both the division and the conference are weak enough for a sleeper to emerge, but even with Adrian Peterson toting the rock, the Vikings still may not have the horses on offense to stay above water.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1 @WASH.	WK 2 @DAL.	WK 3 @CHI.	WK 4 @BUF.	WK 5 @DET.	WK 6 @SEA.	WK 7 @NE.	WK 8 @SF.	WK 9 @DAL.	WK 10 @MIA.	WK 11 @ATL.	WK 12 @CHI.	WK 13 @DAL.	WK 14 @DAL.	WK 15 @DAL.	WK 16 @DAL.	WK 17 @DAL.	TOTALS
Score	19-16	16-13	16-19	12-17	26-17	31-13	7-31	3-9	17-23	20-24	31-26	13-23	30-20	13-26	7-9	21-41		
Total net yards	309	365	286	330	336	332	284	238	312	361	412	346	328	307	104	293		4943
Rushing yards	86	140	97	63	135	175	45	135	90	114	157	190	172	62	77	82		1820
Passing yards	223	225	189	267	201	157	239	103	222	247	255	156	156	245	27	211		3123
Rushing plays	34	33	24	16	30	30	15	33	23	35	33	33	44	15	22	22		442
Sacks allowed	1	5	1	0	0	4	4	3	4	3	2	5	1	3	3	4		43
Had intercepted	0	1	0	2	1	0	4	1	1	1	0	4	1	1	1	2		20
Fumbles lost	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0		12
Yards penalized	60	54	83	78	40	45	39	65	49	49	63	69	50	56	68	35		903
Punts	5	7	4	6	4	5	5	5	7	6	5	8	4	7	10	6		94

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	28:16	26:34	28:21	35:57	23:21	27:41	29:45	25:15	33:39	24:00	23:28	20:39	24:29	36:26	34:39	31:54	28:24
Total net yards	266	271	325	298	217	290	430	133	394	254	412	107	280	391	319	416	4803
Rushing yards	103	107	51	95	16	53	85	42	47	7	17	83	-3	68	46	168	985
Passing yards	163	164	274	203	201	237	345	91	347	247	395	24	283	323	273	248	3818
Rushing plays	25	27	21	33	11	21	15	26	26	13	6	25	10	29	24	36	348
Sacks allowed	0	2	1	3	5	4	3	3	0	1	1	1	3	2	1	0	30
Had intercepted	0	0	2	0	3	2	1	1	0	1	2	3	3	1	2	0	21
Fumbles lost	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	3	2	3	1	1	0	15
Yards penalized	55	32	82	104	50	30	85	56	34	40	64	65	50	55	35	62	899
Punts	5	9	3	7	6	6	4	6	7	6	0	7	1	3	5	4	79

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

RUSHING																	
Fason											1-(-4)-0	11-75-1	6-28-0				18-99-1
T. Jackson														3-20-0	5-23-0	7-34-1	15-77-1
Moore	2-(-1)-0	1-11-0	3-23-0	2-17-0			2-9-0	1-(-1)-0	3-15-0	1-14-0	2-10-0	3-13-0	3-11-0			1-10-0	24-131-0
Pinner		1-2-0			3-13-0		2-5-0	3-29-0					29-125-3	1-4-0	2-5-0	2-7-0	43-190-3
C. Taylor	31-88-1	24-113-0	20-74-0	10-23-0	26-123-0	26-169-1	10-22-0	26-96-0	20-75-0	28-80-2	27-136-1	17-99-0		11-38-0	15-49-0	12-31-1	303-1216-6
PASSING **																	
Bollinger							6-9-1	76-0				7-9-0	70-0				13-18-1
T. Jackson												3-4-0		14-23-1	10-20-1	20-34-2	47-81-4
Br. Johnson	16-30-0	19-31-1	21-31-0	25-44-2	26-34-1	15-24-0	20-33-0	21-31-1	18-30-1	26-44-1	27-41-0	11-26-4	14-22-1	10-17-0		1-1-0	270-439-15
	223-1	243-0	194-0	267-1	201-1	171-1	185-0	136-0	257-1	262-0	271-3	73-0	159-0	96-1		12-0	2750-9
RECEIVING																	
Be. Johnson							2-18-0	2-75-0								2-8-0	1-19-0
McMullen	1-22-0	1-17-0	2-21-0	1-9-0			1-9-0	2-15-0	3-64-1			2-15-1	3-42-0	1-13-0	2-33-0	4-47-0	23-307-2
Moore		3-13-0	3-18-0	2-21-0	5-38-0	1-5-0	4-91-0	1-4-0	5-57-0	5-32-0		5-51-0	2-18-0	5-53-1	2-10-0	3-57-0	46-468-1
Richardson			1-7-0	2-31-0	2-18-0			2-9-0	3-33-0	3-13-0							13-111-0
M. Robinson	1-20-1			5-78-1	3-25-0	4-77-1				1-17-0	7-82-1	5-37-0	3-45-0				29-381-4
C. Taylor	3-43-0	3-15-0	3-15-0	3-14-0	5-31-0	4-19-0	3-27-0	8-45-0	2-20-0		3-35-0	1-2-0			3-18-0	1-4-0	42-288-0
T. Taylor	1-24-0	3-65-0	6-82-0	4-28-0	4-44-1	2-25-0	3-30-0	3-19-0	3-28-0	8-67-0	5-56-0	2-9-0	1-30-0	6-81-1	1-9-0	5-54-1	57-651-3
Wiggins	5-29-0	2-24-0	1-9-0	6-59-0	3-22-0	1-15-1	4-26-0	3-18-0		6-66-0	6-52-0	3-30-0	1-6-0	3-21-0	1-4-0	1-5-0	46-388-1
Williamson	4-77-0	6-102-0	4-39-0	2-27-0	2-11-0	1-18-0	5-44-0	1-4-0		2-35-0			3-23-0	6-74-0	1-1-0		37-455-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Minnesota Vikings

9520 Viking Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
952/828-6500  
Official Website: www.vikings.com  
Stadium: Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome  
Capacity: 64,121  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 6-10; Third in NFC North

Brad Childress

**Owner/chairman:** Zygi Wilf; **Owner/president:** Mark Wilf; **Owner/vice chairman:** Leonard Wilf; **Vice president of football operations:** Rob Brzezinski; **Vice president of player personnel:** Rick Spielman; **Director of college scouting:** Scott Studwell

**Head coach:** Brad Childress

**Assistant coaches:** Darrell Bevell, *offensive coordinator*; Eric Bienemy, *running backs*; Juney Barnett, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Brendan Daly, *defensive quality control*; Karl Dunbar, *defensive line*; Paul Ferraro, *special-teams coordinator*; Leslie Frazier, *defensive coordinator*; Jim Hueber, *asst. offensive line*; Jeff Imamura, *defensive assistant*; Jimmie Johnson, *tight ends*; Tom Kanavy, *strength and conditioning*; Clay Matchett, *offensive assistant*; Pat Morris, *offensive line*; Brian Murphy, *asst. special teams*; Chad O'Shea, *offensive quality control*; Fred Pagac, *linebackers*; Kevin Rogers, *quarterbacks*; George Stewart, *wide receivers*; Martin Streight, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Joe Woods, *defensive backs*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

WR <b>82 WILLIAMSON</b>	12 McMullen	11 Carter	Allison*
OLT <b>74 McKINNIE</b>			
OLG <b>76 HUTCHINSON</b>	64 Herrera		
C <b>78 BIRK</b>	62 Cook		
ORG <b>79 HICKS</b>	64 Herrera		
ORT <b>62 COOK</b>	72 M. Johnson		
TE <b>81 SHIANCOE</b>	40 Kleinsasser	45 Owens	83 Dugan
WR <b>RICE*</b>	19 Wade	15 Nance	17 Mann
QB <b>7 JACKSON</b>	9 Bollinger	2 Henson	Thigpen*
RB <b>28 PETERSON*</b>	29 Taylor	30 Moore	35 Fason
FB <b>49 RICHARDSON</b>	83 Dugan	38 Tahi	

### DEFENSE

DLE <b>95 UDEZE</b>	98 Scott	92 Mitchell	
NT <b>94 P. WILLIAMS</b>	97 S. Johnson		
UT <b>93 K. WILLIAMS</b>	97 S. Johnson		
DRE <b>99 JAMES</b>	91 R. Edwards	Robison*	90 K. Smith
SLB <b>51 LEBER</b>	50 Davis	59 Farwell	
MLB <b>56 HENDERSON</b>	54 Thomas	50 Ciurciu	
WLB <b>52 GREENWAY</b>	55 Glenn	Alexander*	
LCB <b>26 WINFIELD</b>	McCauley*	27 Whitaker	
RCB <b>23 GRIFFIN</b>	36 D. Edwards	41 Gordon	
SS <b>42 SHARPER</b>	21 Doss	20 Blue	
FS <b>24 D. SMITH</b>	25 T. Williams		

### SPECIALISTS

P <b>5 KLUWE</b>			
PK <b>8 LONGWELL</b>			
H <b>5 KLUWE</b>			
PR <b>30 MOORE</b>	19 Wade	42 Sharper	
KR <b>19 WADE</b>	82 Williamson	Allison*	
LS <b>46 LOEFFLER</b>			

\* Rookie

## VIKINGS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/PS
	Alexander, Rufus	LB	6-0	228	R	Oklahoma	
	Allison, Aundrae	WR	6-0	198	R	East Carolina	
78	Birk, Matt	C	6-4	309	10	Harvard	16/16
20	Blue, Greg	S	6-2	216	2	Georgia	16/2
28	Body, Patrick	CB	6-2	198	2	Toledo	0/0
9	Bollinger, Brooks	QB	6-1	205	5	Wisconsin	2/0
11	Carter, Jason	WR	6-0	205	2	Texas A&M	1/0
50	Ciurciu, Vinny	LB	6-0	235	5	Boston College	16/0
62	Cook, Ryan	OT-C	6-6	328	2	New Mexico	6/3
21	Doss, Mike	S	5-10	207	5	Ohio State	6/4
83	Dugan, Jeff	TE-FB	6-4	258	4	Maryland	7/7
36	Edwards, Dovonte	CB	6-0	182	3	North Carolina St.	0/0
91	Edwards, Ray	DE	6-4	268	2	Purdue	15/2
59	Farwell, Heath	LB	6-0	235	3	San Diego St.	16/0
35	Fason, Ciatrick	RB	6-0	207	3	Florida	5/0
55	Glenn, Jason	LB	6-0	231	7	Texas A&M	9/0
41	Gordon, Charles	CB	5-11	180	2	Kansas	8/1
52	Greenway, Chad	LB	6-2	242	2	Iowa	0/0
23	Griffin, Cedric	CB	6-0	203	2	Texas	14/7
71	Guerrero, Alex	DT	6-1	303	1	Boise State	0/0
16	Hankton, Cortez	WR	6-0	200	5	Texas Southern	12/1
37	Hawkins, Mike	DB	6-1	187	3	Oklahoma	7/0
56	Henderson, E.J.	LB	6-1	245	5	Maryland	16/16
2	Henson, Drew	QB	6-4	235	3	Michigan	0/0
64	Herrera, Anthony	OG	6-2	315	3	Tennessee	2/0
79	Hicks, Artis	OG	6-4	335	6	Memphis	14/14
76	Hutchinson, Steve	OG	6-5	313	7	Michigan	16/16
14	Hymes, Randy	WR	6-3	211	5	Grambling	0/0
7	Jackson, Tarvaris	QB	6-2	232	2	Alabama State	4/2
99	James, Erasmus	DE	6-4	266	3	Wisconsin	2/2
72	Johnson, Marcus	OT	6-6	321	3	Mississippi	10/10
97	Johnson, Spencer	DT	6-3	286	4	Auburn	14/0
66	Katnik, Norm	C	6-4	280	2	USC	0/0
40	Kleinsasser, Jim	TE	6-3	272	9	North Dakota	16/12
5	Kluwe, Chris	P	6-4	215	3	UCLA	16/0
51	Leber, Ben	LB	6-3	244	6	Kansas State	15/11
46	Loeffler, Cullen	LS	6-5	241	4	Texas	16/0
8	Longwell, Ryan	PK	6-0	200	11	California	16/0
	Lowber, Todd	WR	6-3	205	R	Ramapo (N.J.)	
	Maddox, Andre	S	6-1	200	2	North Carolina State	0/0
17	Mann, Maurice	WR	6-1	190	2	Nevada	1/0
73	Martin, Jimmy	OG	6-5	306	1	Virginia Tech	0/0
34	Mathis, Wendell	RB	5-11	213	1	Fresno State	0/0
	McCauley, Marcus	CB	6-1	200	R	Fresno State	
74	McKinnie, Bryant	OT	6-8	343	6	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
12	McMullen, Billy	WR	6-4	215	5	Virginia	16/0
92	Mitchell, Jayme	DE	6-6	285	2	Mississippi	13/0
30	Moore, Mewelde	RB	5-11	209	4	Tulane	16/0
15	Nance, Martin	WR	6-3	212	2	Miami (Ohio)	1/1
45	Owens, Richard	FB	6-4	273	4	Louisville	16/2
28	Peterson, Adrian	RB	6-1	217	R	Oklahoma	
22	Pinner, Artose	RB	5-10	232	5	Kentucky	12/1
	Rice, Sidney	WR	6-4	202	R	South Carolina	
49	Richardson, Tony	RB	6-1	238	13	Auburn	9/7
	Robison, Brian	DE	6-3	259	R	Texas	
98	Scott, Darrion	DE	6-3	289	4	Ohio State	16/13
42	Sharper, Darren	S	6-2	210	11	William & Mary	16/16
81	Shiancoe, Visanthe	TE	6-4	250	5	Morgan State	16/4
24	Smith, Dwight	S	5-10	201	7	Akron	15/14
90	Smith, Khream	DE	6-4	270	1	Oklahoma State	1/0
	Spach, Stephen	TE	6-4	250	2	Fresno State	0/0
	Surrency, Justin	WR	6-0	182	1	Northern Iowa	0/0
38	Tahi, Naufahu	FB	6-0	254	2	Brigham Young	0/0
29	Taylor, Chester	RB	5-11	213	6	Toledo	15/15
	Thigpen, Tyler	QB	6-1	225	R	Coastal Carolina	
54	Thomas, Dontarrious	LB	6-2	241	4	Auburn	16/0
95	Udeze, Kenechi	DE	6-3	281	4	USC	16/15
19	Wade, Bobby	WR	5-10	190	5	Arizona	16/2
27	Whitaker, Ronyell	CB	5-9	196	5	Virginia Tech	16/2
	Williams, Chandler	WR	5-11	184	R	Florida International	
93	Williams, Kevin	DT	6-5	311	5	Oklahoma State	16/16
94	Williams, Pat	DT	6-3	317	11	Texas A&M	16/16
25	Williams, Tank	S	6-2	223	6	Stanford	0/0
82	Williamson, Troy	WR	6-1	203	3	South Carolina	14/11
26	Winfield, Antoine	CB	5-9	180	9	Ohio State	16/16
	Wishom, Jerron	CB	6-0	197	2	Louisiana Tech	0/0

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Atlanta	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Detroit	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Kansas City	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	Green Bay	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	BYE	
Oct. 14	at Chicago	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Dallas	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	San Diego	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Green Bay	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	Oakland	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at N.Y. Giants	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	Detroit	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at San Francisco	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 17	Chicago	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 23	Washington	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Denver	4:15 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Minnesota

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 11	At Washington	(+4) 19-16
Sept. 17	Carolina	(-2.5) 16-13*
Sept. 24	Chicago	(+3.5) 16-19
Oct. 1	At Buffalo	(+1.5) 12-17
Oct. 8	Detroit	(-6.5) 26-17
Oct. 15	BYE	
Oct. 22	At Seattle	(+6) 31-13
Oct. 30	New England	(+1.5) 7-31
Nov. 5	At San Francisco	(-4) 3-9
Nov. 12	Green Bay	(-5) 17-23
Nov. 19	At Miami	(+3.5) 20-24
Nov. 26	Arizona	(-7) 31-26
Dec. 3	At Chicago	(+9) 13-23
Dec. 10	At Detroit	(+1) 30-20
Dec. 17	New York Jets	(-3.5) 13-26
Dec. 21	At Green Bay	(+4) 7-9
Dec. 31	St. Louis	(+2) 21-41

\* OVERTIME



# NEW ORLEANS SAINTS



TUSP

RB REGGIE BUSH

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **11-5** 1st place /  
NFC South

One of the most dramatic turn-arounds in NFL history took place in New Orleans in 2006. Not only did the Saints go from worst to first in their division, but they also made it to the NFC championship game for the first time in franchise history. Led by a new head coach and a new starting quarterback, the Saints blitzed the NFL and brought a winning attitude to a devastated region.

Coach Sean Payton and QB Drew Brees worked seamlessly together to produce the top offense in the league. A completely overhauled roster produced several no-name gems like Marques Colston, Jahri Evans, Jeff Faine and Scott Shanle. And along with a solid base of blue-chip talent, including Brees, Jammal Brown, Deuce McAllister, Reggie Bush, Scott Fujita and Will Smith, the Saints appear poised to make another run at the NFC crown.

## Offense

Sean Payton's offense is so dangerous because it can beat opponents in every way imaginable. The Saints can beat you

through the air with Pro Bowl QB Drew Brees, the league's passing-yardage leader in 2006, and WR Marques Colston, the runner-up to Vince Young for Rookie of the Year. They can run between the tackles with bulldozer RB Deuce McAllister or break runs to the outside with versatile RB Reggie Bush. The offensive line lacks star power outside of OLT Jammal Brown, who earned a trip to the Pro Bowl in his first season on the left side, but it is a solid run- and pass-blocking unit overall. The league's top-ranked offense returns all of its key contributors except for injury-plagued WR Joe Horn and it adds talented receivers TE Eric Johnson and rookie WR Robert Meachem.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ In his first season with the Saints, Drew Brees led the NFL in pass-



ing yards and finished second to Chargers RB LaDainian Tomlinson for league MVP honors. He attempted a career-high 554 passes in 2006 and appeared fully recovered from a career-threatening shoulder injury that helped end his tenure in San Diego. Sean Payton's offense requires the quarterback to play mistake-free, which Brees did by throwing just 11 interceptions last season. Brees does not have the strongest arm, but he is extremely accurate and can make all of the throws in Payton's version of the West Coast offense. Brees' command of the huddle and leadership on and off the field are also a welcomed departure from previous starter Aaron Brooks. Brees' offseason got off to a shaky start after he suffered a dislocated left elbow in the Pro Bowl. He

is expected to make a full recovery by the start of training camp, but he will be spending his second straight offseason rehabbing instead of working with his young receiving corps. The Saints carried two signal-callers on their roster last season and figure to go that route again this season, sticking with Jamie Martin as Brees' backup. Martin is smart, but he is not a quick decision-maker.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Deuce McAllister and Reggie Bush formed one of the most lethal tailback tandems in the NFL last season. McAllister, who missed the final 11 games in 2005 with a torn anterior cruciate ligament, returned to his pre-injury form, rushing for a team-high 1,057 yards and 10 touchdowns. McAllister is a bruiser between the tackles and has an explosive burst to get to the edge and break long runs. Scouts say he was tentative cutting hard early last season, but by the end of the campaign, his knee no longer appeared to be an issue. Bush started slow in his rookie year, failing to score his first touchdown from scrimmage until Week 10. By season's end, the No. 2 overall pick finally lived up to the lofty expectations, recording his first 100-yard rushing performance in Week 16 and catching an 88-yard TD pass vs. the Bears in the NFC championship. Sean Payton is a creative play-caller and uses Bush in a variety of ways — lining him up as a single

back, slot receiver, split wide and in motion when McAllister is on the field. Bush has elite speed and excellent hands, but he takes too many negative yards while trying to set up a big play instead of taking what the defense gives him and gaining positive yards. Bush runs East-West more than North-South, and he operates best in space and is not a pure tailback at this point. Aaron Stecker is an ideal No. 3 tailback and runs hard between the tackles. Payton added another offensive weapon with rookie Antonio Pittman, a fourth-round pick who figures to see plenty of action on third downs. FB Mike Karney is a player on the rise. He is a physical lead blocker and a short-yardage weapon as a runner and receiver.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Marques Colston emerged from a seventh-round afterthought on draft

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
QB **DREW BREES**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DE **WILL SMITH**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**TE ERIC JOHNSON**  
Drew Brees may have found the pass-catching tight end he has been looking for since leaving Antonio Gates in San Diego.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
**No. 2 WR:**  
**OPEN COMPETITION**

Devery Henderson and Terrance Copper, who each started a couple of games last season, and first-round pick Robert Meachem are jockeying for Joe Horn's old job.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

CB Jason David, TE Eric Johnson, S Kevin Kaesviharn, PK Olindo Mare, WR David Patten, LB Brian Simmons.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

PK John Carney, LB Danny Clark, TE Ernie Conwell, OG Montrae Holland, WR Joe Horn.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Robert Meachem	WR	Tennessee	27
3	Usama Young	CB	Kent State	66
3	Andy Alleman	OG	Akron	88
4	Antonio Pittman	RB	Ohio State	107
4	Jermon Bushrod	OT	Towson	125
5	David Jones	CB	Wingate (N.C.)	145
7	Marvin Mitchell	ILB	Tennessee	220



weekend to runner-up for Rookie of the Year honors. Colston developed a solid rapport with QB Drew Brees from Day One and led the Saints in receiving yards and TD catches as a rookie while replacing former Pro Bowler Joe Horn as the team's top receiving threat. Colston has good toughness and hands, and his size and strength make him a commanding presence in the middle of the field and in the red zone. Colston is not a burner, but he is deceptively fast and can get behind quicker defensive backs. First-round pick Robert Meachem has good size and sure hands and will be given every chance to win a starting

job. He is also a downfield threat who can leap in the air and win balls. Devery Henderson is a burner and the team's top deep threat, averaging 23.3 yards per catch last season. He became more consistent in his route-running last season. The Saints signed Terrance Copper on the eve of the 2006 season, and he had a breakout campaign serving as Horn's primary backup and even

starting a playoff game when Horn was hurt. Copper is physical and not afraid of the middle of the field. Free-agent addition Eric Johnson jumps to the head of an undistinguished group of tight ends. He is very athletic and a good receiver. If he can stay healthy, Johnson should flourish in Sean Payton's TE-friendly offense. TE Billy Miller is athletic enough to split out wide as a receiver, and Mark Campbell is a capable blocker.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ All five starters return in 2007 from a unit that allowed 23 sacks — fourth fewest in the league — last season. OLT Jammal Brown made a smooth transition from right tackle and earned a trip to the Pro Bowl in his first season on the left side. Brown is not a great athlete for the OLT spot, but he has long arms and, once he gets his hands on you, he is tough to beat. Brown is tough and physical and plays with a mean streak, and scouts say the sky is the limit for him. C Jeff Faine is a respected leader, makes all of the line calls and brings a toughness that has rubbed off on the other linemen. ORG Jahri Evans, a fourth-round pick who started every game as a rookie, is intelligent, plays nasty and is a physical run blocker. Evans reminds some scouts of Chiefs OLG Brian Waters. ORT Jon Stinchcomb stayed healthy for the first time in his career and started every game last season. Stinchcomb is a good athlete and his aggressiveness improved, but he is still the least physical starter on the line. OLG Jamar Nesbit is very athletic and a good run blocker, but he could face competition for his starting job from third-round pick Andy Alleman. Jonathan Goodwin is a serviceable backup at both the C and OG spots, and OT Zach Strief earned high marks in one start as a rookie last season.

## Defense

The defense improved dramatically under first-year coordinator Gary Gibbs, but it still must advance from being a bend-but-don't-break unit to a play-making unit if the Saints are to take the next step. The Saints ranked next to last in takeaways in 2006. The line is solid with the dynamic tandem of Will Smith and Charles Grant. The LB corps and secondary are talented, but these units have some holes.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The Saints kept one of the most prolific pass-rush tandems intact when they designated Charles Grant their franchise player in February and later signed him to a seven-year contract. Grant had a bounce-back campaign last season in a contract year. Grant is strong at the point of attack, is good against the run and as a pass rusher and takes pride in both areas. DE Will Smith recorded a career-high 10½ sacks last season. He is a slippery pass rusher and a Pro Bowl talent who is smart and plays with a high motor. DT Hollis Thomas is a solid run defender and brought a physical presence to the line last season. Thomas was having a career year before he was suspended for the final four games of



the regular season for violating the league's steroid policy, which Thomas blames on an asthma medication he was taking. The Saints' run defense sagged with Thomas out of the lineup. DT Brian Young is a try-hard guy and more quick than strong. Young gives high effort at all times and can be disruptive — he recorded 5½ sacks last season. Backup DE Rob Ninkovich had a promising start to his rookie year before suffering a season-ending knee injury. Willie Whitehead is a versatile backup who can play inside or out.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ The Saints' linebackers are solid, but they are not playmakers. SLB Scott Fujita is the leader of the defense. He is athletic and plays hard, but he is not flashy. Scouts say Fujita knows his assignments and is underappreciated. WLB Scott Shanle signed a four-year extension in the offseason after a productive first season in New Orleans. He is limited athletically and a liability in pass coverage, but he is a smart and aggressive blitzer. The Saints signed free-agent MLB Brian Simmons in the offseason to replace Mark Simoneau in the starting lineup. Simmons has good instincts and is tough vs. the run and the pass. While Simmons is on the downside of career, he is an upgrade over Simoneau, especially against the run. Simoneau has size and strength limitations and has trouble shedding blocks. He is a good backup and will contribute on special teams. Alfred Fincher has a lot of ability, but he has never been

able to put it all together.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ CB Mike McKenzie is the Saints' top cover man, but he is no longer considered a top-tier cover guy in the league. McKenzie is savvy and gets by on instincts and aggressiveness, but he has lost a step and his recovery speed is limited. The Saints bolstered their secondary by acquiring ex-Colt CB Jason David on the eve of the draft to replace aging Fred Thomas in the starting lineup. David has started 43 games in the past three seasons and excelled in Indy's cover-2 scheme.

Thomas accepted a demotion and payout in the offseason after giving up several big plays last season. Thomas turns 34 in September, and scouts say he is a willing tackler and should be more explosive playing fewer snaps in nickel and dime packages. Third-round pick Usama Young has sub-4.4 speed and could push Thomas for the nickel-CB job. Young is also big and strong enough to play safety. The Saints are much younger at safety after investing second-round picks in FS Josh Bullocks ('05) and SS Roman Harper ('06). Bullocks has started 29 games, but he is too stiff, inconsistent and blows too many assignments. Harper started the first five games as a rookie before suffering a torn anterior cruciate ligament. Harper is smart and aggressive and can help in run support and as a blitzer off the edge. The Saints signed ex-Bengal Kevin Kaesviharn to push the youngsters, and some scouts

believe he could replace Bullocks as a starter. Kaesviharn is smart and instinctive and more athletic than he is given credit for.

## Special teams

PK John Carney led the NFC in field-goal percentage and only missed two attempts last season, but the 43-year-old Carney lost pop in his kicks and couldn't handle kickoff duties.

The Saints released Carney and replaced him with strong-legged Dolphins PK Olindo Mare. The team believes Mare's inconsistency will

be less of an issue indoors. Undrafted rookie P Steve Weatherford finished sixth in the NFC in net punting average last season after replacing Mitch Berger. Reggie Bush will continue to return punts because he is a threat to score every time he touches the ball. Michael Lewis remains a solid option as the kick returner, but he will turn 36 this season.

## Summary

Considered an afterthought during their first four decades in the league, the Saints must now be mentioned among the NFL's most powerful teams. They have high-caliber players at every offensive skill position and an aggressive and creative play-caller in Sean Payton. If the Saints are going to take the next step and make it to their first Super Bowl, they need the defense to follow the offense's lead and become a play-making unit.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	19-14	34-27	23-3	18-21	24-21	27-24	22-35	31-14	31-38	16-31	31-13	34-10	42-17	10-16	30-7	21-31	21-31	
Total net yards	326	380	326	407	314	373	403	363	513	595	427	375	536	270	359	297	6264	
Rushing yards	156	48	146	63	143	98	35	49	120	91	95	190	159	71	236	61	1761	
Passing yards	170	332	180	344	171	275	368	314	393	504	332	185	377	199	123	236	4503	
Rushing plays	41	22	34	23	25	30	14	35	29	23	25	41	36	24	53	17	472	
Sacks allowed	0	4	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	5	23	
Had intercepted	1	1	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	13	
Fumbles lost	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	
Yards penalized	44	14	40	38	49	64	68	25	25	25	35	47	54	16	15	38	597	
Punts	3	4	6	5	8	5	2	6	2	5	6	5	4	6	5	5	77	

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	27:14	31:56	27:20	30:21	30:37	25:57	36:46	22:39	26:59	26:27	34:19	22:41	22:49	29:37	19:26	34:39	28:07	
Total net yards	186	385	229	324	406	325	293	226	467	385	333	202	347	354	142	313	4917	
Rushing yards	85	63	117	167	187	99	137	68	217	119	281	57	116	161	83	106	2063	
Passing yards	101	322	112	157	219	226	156	158	250	266	52	145	231	193	59	207	2854	
Rushing plays	22	20	23	29	33	19	39	18	26	31	45	15	16	31	18	33	418	
Sacks allowed	5	2	5	1	2	3	1	4	2	1	3	4	2	1	2	0	38	
Had intercepted	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	1	0	11	
Fumbles lost	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	8	
Yards penalized	35	31	43	48	66	67	69	25	34	10	65	37	43	15	67	19	674	
Punts	6	6	7	6	6	6	6	8	3	6	6	7	4	5	9	5	96	

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

<b>RUSHING</b>																		
Brees	3-(-2)-0	4-(-4)-0	1-1-0	1-(-3)-0	4-(-1)-0	3-6-0	6-9-0	4-14-0				3-14-0	5-(-6)-0	1-3-0	5-(-1)-0	1-0-0	42-32-0	
Bush	15-67-0	6-5-0	13-53-0	11-22-0	9-23-0	11-26-0	5-16-0	11-(-5)-0	10-49-1	13-51-0	5-24-0	10-37-3	6-37-0	7-14-0	20-126-1	3-20-1	155-565-6	
Karney	1-1-0						2-5-0	1-1-0				2-3-0	3-14-1	1-6-0	1-3-0		11-33-1	
McAllister	22-90-0	12-47-2	19-81-0	11-39-1	15-123-1	12-64-0	5-11-0	15-32-1	14-56-1	10-40-0	20-71-2	26-136-0	21-111-0	15-48-1	27-108-1		244-1057-10	
<b>PASSING</b>																		
Brees	16-30-1	26-41-1	20-28-0	28-38-0	21-33-0	27-37-2	24-45-3	31-47-0	37-52-3	21-30-0	17-28-0	25-38-0	21-38-1	13-32-0	4-5-0	356-554-11		
Martin	170-1	353-2	191-0	349-1	171-1	275-3	383-3	314-3	398-1	510-2	349-2	188-1	384-5	207-0	132-1	46-0	4418-26	
<b>RECEIVING</b>																		
Bush	7-52-0	8-68-0	4-19-0	4-48-0	11-63-0	4-35-0	4-5-0	4-22-0	7-40-0	9-58-0	3-21-0	9-131-1	6-125-1	5-19-0	2-23-0	2-13-0	88-742-2	
Campbell		1-33-0		1-6-0		1-7-0	4-42-0	2-16-0	1-5-0	1-10-0	3-13-0	2-10-0	1-14-0		1-8-0		18-164-0	
Colston	4-49-1	4-58-1	7-97-0	5-132-1	3-38-0	4-40-1	6-163-2	11-123-1	10-169-0				5-48-0	7-84-0	4-37-1		70-1038-8	
Conwell				5-37-0	2-14-1	1-6-0											8-57-1	
Copper				2-30-0			1-25-0	1-11-0	6-92-1	6-87-1	1-48-1		1-8-0	3-38-0	2-46-0		23-385-3	
Henderson	3-44-0	3-51-1	2-15-0					3-111-2		9-169-0	4-158-1	2-14-0	2-92-1	2-20-0		2-71-0	32-745-5	
Horn	2-25-0	5-88-0	3-47-0	5-63-0	4-48-0	6-110-2	5-126-1			3-93-1	3-61-0	1-18-0					37-679-4	
Jones						1-8-0						1-4-0	1-27-1			3-69-0	6-108-1	
Karney				1-0-0		1-2-0	1-9-0		2-8-0		2-19-0	1-5-0	5-39-2			2-14-0	15-96-2	
McAllister	1-24-0	4-13-0	1-8-0	1-8-0	6-36-0	2-8-0	2-12-0	1-2-0	3-29-0	2-5-0	1-4-0	3-15-0	1-20-0	2-14-0		30-198-0		
Miller							1-19-0	1-4-0	2-11-0	3-24-0		1-12-0	3-26-0			3-39-0	14-129-0	
Stecker	3-21-0		3-15-0		2-14-0	1-5-0		3-78-0	5-53-0					2-4-0			19-190-0	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## New Orleans Saints

5800 Airline Drive  
Metairie, LA 70003  
504/733-0255  
Official Website: [www.neworleanssaints.com](http://www.neworleanssaints.com)  
Stadium: Louisiana Superdome  
Capacity: 69,703  
Playing surface: Momentum turf  
2006 record: 10-6; First in NFC South

Sean Payton

**Owner:** Tom Benson; **Owner/executive vice president of administration:** Rita Benson LeBlanc; **Executive vice president/general manager:** Mickey Loomis; **Senior football administrator:** Russ Ball; **Director of player personnel:** Rick Mueller; **Director of college scouting:** Rick Reiprich

**Head coach:** Sean Payton

**Assistant coaches:** Dennis Allen, *asst. defensive line*; Joe Alley, *assistant*; Adam Bailey, *asst. strength and conditioning*; John Bonamego, *special-teams coordinator*; Pete Carmichael Jr., *quarterbacks*; Josh Constant, *assistant*; Dan Dalrymple, *head strength and conditioning*; Gary Gibbs, *defensive coordinator*; Tom Hayes, *defensive backs*; George Henshaw, *senior offensive assistant/running backs*; Marion Hobby, *defensive line*; Curtis Johnson, *wide receivers*; Terry Malone, *tight ends*; Doug Marrone, *offensive coordinator/offensive line*; Greg McMahon, *asst. special teams*; Tony Oden, *defensive assistant/secondary*; Carter Sheridan, *assistant*; Joe Vitt, *asst. head coach/linebackers*; Adam Zimmer, *assistant*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

WR <b>12 COLSTON</b>	19 Henderson	89 J. Jones	
OLT <b>70 BROWN</b>	64 Strief		
OLG <b>67 NESBIT</b>	65 Alleman*		
C <b>52 FAINE</b>	76 Goodwin		
ORG <b>73 EVANS</b>	76 Goodwin		
ORT <b>78 STINGHCOMB</b>	79 Pettiti	60 Archibald	
TE <b>82 E. JOHNSON</b>	80 Campbell	83 Miller	86 Owens
WR <b>85 MEACHEM*</b>	18 Copper	81 Patten	
QB <b>9 BRES</b>	10 Martin	11 Fife	3 Palko*
RB <b>26 McALLISTER</b>	25 Bush	24 Pittman*	27 Stecker
FB <b>44 KARNEY</b>	40 Dudley		

### DEFENSE

DLE <b>94 GRANT</b>	98 Whitehead		
DLT <b>99 H. THOMAS</b>	96 Lake		
DRT <b>86 B. YOUNG</b>	77 Leisle		
DRE <b>91 SMITH</b>	93 Ninkovich	97 Cooper	
SLB <b>55 FUJITA</b>	56 Fincher		
MLB <b>51 SIMMONS</b>	53 Simoneau		
WLB <b>58 SHANLE</b>	57 Faulk		
LCB <b>34 MCKENZIE</b>	38 U. Young*	21 Craft	
RCB <b>42 DAVID</b>	22 F. Thomas	28 Groce	30 D. Jones*
SS <b>41 HARPER</b>	20 Bellamy		
FS <b>43 KAESVIHARN</b>	29 Bullocks		

### SPECIALISTS

P <b>7 WEATHERFORD</b>			
PK <b>2 MARE</b>	4 Bergstrom*		
H <b>10 MARTIN</b>			
PR <b>25 BUSH</b>	84 Lewis		
KR <b>84 LEWIS</b>	89 J. Jones		
LS <b>47 HOUSER</b>			

\* Rookie

## SAINTS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
65	Alleman, Andy	OG	6-4	302	R	Akron	
60	Archibald, Ben	OT	6-3	320	3	Brigham Young	0/0
20	Bellamy, Jay	S	5-11	200	14	Rutgers	11/3
4	Bergstrom, Brett	PK	6-2	220	R	Eastern Washington	
	Boykin, McKinley	DT	6-1	289	1	Mississippi	0/0
35	Branch, Jamaal	RB	6-1	230	2	Colgate	1/0
9	Brees, Drew	QB	6-0	209	7	Purdue	16/16
70	Brown, Jammal	OT	6-6	313	3	Oklahoma	15/15
29	Bullocks, Josh	S	6-1	207	3	Nebraska	16/16
25	Bush, Reggie	RB	6-0	203	2	USC	16/8
74	Bushrod, Jermon	OL	6-5	315	R	Towson	
80	Campbell, Mark	TE	6-6	260	9	Michigan	14/10
12	Colston, Marques	WR	6-4	231	2	Holstra	14/12
97	Cooper, Josh	DE	6-3	265	2	Mississippi	5/1
18	Copper, Terrance	WR	6-0	207	4	East Carolina	15/4
21	Craft, Jason	CB	5-10	187	9	Colorado State	16/6
42	David, Jason	CB	5-8	180	4	Washington State	16/16
40	Dudley, Kevin	FB	6-0	238	1	Michigan	1/0
71	Dyakowski, Peter	OT	6-5	310	R	LSU	
73	Evans, Jahri	OG	6-4	318	2	Bloomsburg	16/16
54	Evans, Troy	LB	6-3	238	6	Cincinnati	16/0
	Evans, Willie	DE	6-1	269	1	Mississippi State	0/0
52	Faine, Jeff	C	6-3	291	5	Notre Dame	16/16
57	Faulk, Trev	LB	6-3	254	5	LSU	
11	Fife, Jason	QB	6-4	226	1	Oregon	0/0
56	Fincher, Alfred	LB	6-1	238	3	Connecticut	6/0
55	Fujita, Scott	LB	6-5	250	6	California	16/16
37	Gleason, Steve	S	5-11	212	7	Washington State	15/0
76	Goodwin, Jonathan	OG-C	6-3	318	6	Michigan	16/0
94	Grant, Charles	DE	6-3	290	6	Georgia	16/16
33	Greer, Keith	FB	6-1	248	R	Idaho	
28	Groce, DeJuan	CB	5-10	192	5	Nebraska	12/0
95	Hamm, Jon	DE	6-7	272	R	Clark Atlanta	
41	Harper, Roman	S	6-1	200	2	Alabama	5/5
19	Henderson, Devery	WR	5-11	200	4	LSU	13/7
47	Houser, Kevin	LS	6-2	252	8	Ohio State	16/0
82	Johnson, Eric	TE	6-3	252	7	Yale	13/9
87	Johnson, Robert	TE	6-6	278	1	Auburn	0/0
30	Jones, David	CB	6-0	196	R	Wingate	
89	Jones, Jamal	WR	5-11	205	2	North Carolina A&T	12/1
43	Kaesviharn, Kevin	S	6-1	196	7	Augustana (S.D.)	14/7
44	Karney, Mike	FB	5-11	258	4	Arizona State	15/7
59	Koehl, Wade	LB	6-2	230	R	Houston	
61	Kuresa, Jake	OG	6-4	330	R	Brigham Young	
96	Lake, Antwan	DT	6-4	308	5	West Virginia	15/1
77	Leisle, Rodney	DT	6-3	315	4	UCLA	14/1
84	Lewis, Michael	WR	5-8	173	7	None	10/0
45	MacDonald, Pat	LS	6-3	247	R	Alberta	
2	Mare, Olindo	PK	5-11	190	11	Syracuse	16/0
10	Martin, Jamie	QB	6-2	205	13	Weber State	16/0
26	McAllister, Deuce	RB	6-1	232	7	Mississippi	15/13
34	McKenzie, Mike	CB	6-0	194	9	Memphis	16/16
15	McKnight, Rhema	WR	6-1	211	R	Notre Dame	
85	Meachem, Robert	WR	6-2	214	R	Tennessee	
83	Miller, Billy	TE	6-3	252	8	USC	10/3
50	Mitchell, Marvin	LB	6-3	249	R	Tennessee	
16	Moore, Lance	WR	5-9	177	2	Toledo	4/0
67	Nesbit, Jamar	OG	6-4	328	9	South Carolina	16/16
93	Ninkovich, Rob	DE	6-2	252	2	Purdue	3/0
86	Owens, John	TE	6-3	255	5	Notre Dame	5/0
3	Palko, Tyler	QB	6-1	215	R	Pittsburgh	
81	Patten, David	WR	5-10	190	11	Western Carolina	5/0
79	Pettiti, Rob	OT	6-6	327	3	Pittsburgh	1/0
32	Phillips, Anwar	CB	6-0	187	1	Penn State	0/0
24	Pittman, Antonio	RB	5-11	207	R	Ohio State	
31	Porter, Joe	CB	6-0	200	R	Rutgers	
48	Powell, Calen	TE	6-5	257	1	Duke	0/0
	Reis, Chris	S	6-1	215	1	Georgia Tech	0/0
88	Ridgeway, Dante	WR	6-1	200	2	Ball State	0/0
58	Shanle, Scott	LB	6-2	245	5	Nebraska	16/15
51	Simmons, Brian	LB	6-3	240	10	North Carolina	11/8
53	Simoneau, Mark	LB	6-0	245	8	Kansas State	16/14
75	Sims, Wes	OG	6-4	317	2	Oklahoma	0/0
91	Smith, Will	DE	6-3	282	4	Ohio State	14/14
27	Stecker, Aaron	RB	5-10	213	8	Western Illinois	12/1
78	Stinghcomb, Jon	OT	6-5	315	5	Georgia	16/16
64	Strief, Zach	OT	6-7	349	2	Northwestern	9/1
22	Thomas, Fred	CB	5-9	185	12	Tennessee-Martin	13/13
99	Thomas, Hollis	DT	6-0	306	12	Northern Illinois	12/12
23	Thomas, Pierre	RB	5-11	210	R	Illinois	
69	Thomas, Walter	DT	6-4	374	R	NW Mississippi C.C.	
90	Villarreal, Brandon	DT	6-1	289	1	Purdue	0/0
7	Weatherford, Steve	P	6-3	215	2	Illinois	16/0
98	Whitehead, Willie	DE	6-3	300	9	Auburn	12/3
66	Young, Brian	DT	6-2	298	8	UTEP	16/16
38	Young, Usama	CB	6-0	194	R	Kent State	
68	Yovanovits, Dave	OG	6-3	294	4	Temple	0/0

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 6	at Indianapolis	8:30 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Sept. 24	Tennessee	8:30 p.m.
Sept. 30	BYE	
Oct. 7	Carolina	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Seattle	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 21	Atlanta	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	at San Francisco	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 4	Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	St. Louis	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Houston	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 10	at Atlanta	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 16	Arizona	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Chicago	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to New Orleans

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Cleveland	(+3)	19-14
Sept. 17	At Green Bay	(-1)	34-27
Sept. 25	Atlanta	(+4)	23-3
Oct. 1	At Carolina	(+7)	18-21
Oct. 8	Tampa Bay	(-7)	24-21
Oct. 15	Philadelphia	(+3)	27-24
Oct. 22	BYE		
Oct. 29	Baltimore	(-2.5)	22-35
Nov. 5	At Tampa Bay	(+1)	31-14
Nov. 12	At Pittsburgh	(+6.5)	31-38
Nov. 19	Cincinnati	(-3.5)	16-31
Nov. 26	At Atlanta	(+3)	31-13
Dec. 3	San Francisco	(-7.5)	34-10
Dec. 10	At Dallas	(+7.5)	42-17
Dec. 17	Washington	(-9.5)	10-16
Dec. 24	At New York Giants	(+3)	30-7
Dec. 31	Carolina	(+3)	21-31
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 13	Philadelphia	(-5.5)	27-24
Jan. 21	At Chicago	(+2.5)	14-39



# CAROLINA PANTHERS



HARRY SCULL JR.

DE JULIUS PEPPERS

PREDICTED RECORD: **10-6** 2nd place / NFC South

With expectations sky high entering the 2006 season, the Panthers — heavy Super Bowl favorites after falling a game short the previous season — fell flat from Day One.

All-Pro WR Steve Smith injured his hamstring on the first day of training camp, and

it was an ominous sign of things to come.

Injuries ravaged the offensive line, and defensive starters

Dan Morgan and Mike

Rucker suffered season-ending injuries.

Offensive coordinator Dan Henning and

two other assistants were fired after the disappointing season. And head coach John Fox and GM Marty Hurney are starting to feel the heat for the first time.

Plenty of talent remains on the roster for a playoff run, but age is beginning to creep up on the Panthers and the window for winning a Super Bowl with this core group of players appears to be closing.

## Offense

The Panthers are counting on new offensive coordinator Jeff Davidson to turn around a unit that slumped last season because of injuries along the line and erratic play from QB Jake Delhomme. David-

son, who came to the Panthers after serving as the Patriots' and Browns' OL coach, also will be charged with fixing a ground game that finished 24th in rushing. Davidson prefers a between-the-tackles rushing attack — something John Fox has always wanted but has been absent in Carolina since the Panthers made their Super Bowl run in 2003. Davidson also plans to bring more balance to an offense that became too pass-happy at times with WR Steve Smith the past two seasons.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Jake Delhomme is coming off his most inconsistent season since becoming the Panthers' starter. He also missed three of the final four games with an injury to the thumb on his throwing hand. A fiery competitor who gets by more





on his intangibles — drive and leadership — than on natural skill, Delhomme has adequate arm strength and is more of a touch passer than a fastball thrower. Delhomme is an up-and-down decision-maker and is prone to extreme hot-and-cold streaks. Scouts suggest you can usually tell right away whether Delhomme is going to have a good game or when he might struggle. The Panthers released long-time backup Chris Weinke in the offseason and replaced him with former No. 1 overall pick David Carr, who was cut by the Texans. Carr will provide Delhomme the most competition he has had since taking the starter's job. Carr has better arm strength, is a more accurate passer and is more mobile than Delhomme, but Carr never has shown Delhomme's leadership qualities or produced a winning record as a pro. The starting job is Delhomme's, but if his struggles from last season carry over, Carr could get a look. Brett Basanez is a smart, competitive player with a tremendous work ethic, but he likely never will develop into anything more than a career backup.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ DeShaun Foster and DeAngelo Williams were not the explosive, two-headed attack the Panthers hoped for. Foster was a change-of-pace back in college and early in his NFL career, but in his first year as a starter, he attempted to become a between-the-tackles grinder. That is not Foster's forte, however; he runs too upright. Foster is at his best when he is bouncing off the tackle and getting free to the outside. Williams is a better inside runner than Foster despite being smaller, getting his pads down better and falling forward when he runs inside, but he won't run over anyone. Williams has quick feet and good lateral movement to slip tackles. Eric Shelton is built like a grinder, but he never has gotten the opportunity to show it. He runs soft for being built like a power back. Nick Goings has played well when given a chance, but he lacks the speed and quickness to be a featured back. Goings is a tough competitor and not afraid to stick his nose in there and block. FB Brad Hoover is a solid short-yardage option as a runner and a receiver.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Steve Smith is one of the elite receivers with all the traits desired in a top wideout. He has speed to stretch the field, isn't afraid to go over the middle and is dangerous after the catch and can take a hit. Smith has posted back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons despite missing all of training camp and the first two games last season with injuries to both hamstrings. Smith has rare hand strength to make the tough catches in a crowd. Injuries, however, continue to plague the 5-foot-9 Smith. Keyshawn Johnson failed to live up to expectations during his one season in Carolina and was released just days after the draft. While the longterm solution is second-round rookie Dwayne Jarrett, he may take some time to adjust to the pro game, which means veteran Drew Carter has the edge to win the No. 2 job.

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
WR **STEVE SMITH**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DE **JULIUS PEPPERS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
TE **MICHAEL GAINES**

Gaines has all the skills to become a productive receiver, and the new offensive coordinator plans to emphasize the TE position.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
RB:  
**DeSHAUN FOSTER vs. DeANGELO WILLIAMS**

Foster was not an explosive playmaker in his first year as a starter, so promising youngster Williams will get a chance to unseat him.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

DE Dave Ball, S Deke Cooper, CB Curtis Deloatch, DT Chad Lavalais, LB Terrence Melton, DT Steve Williams.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

LB Vinny Ciurciu, LB Chris Draft, WR Karl Hankton, WR Keyshawn Johnson, TE Kris Mangum, DE Al Wallace, QB Chris Weinke.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Jon Beason	LB	Miami (Fla.)	25
2	Dwayne Jarrett	WR	USC	45
2	Ryan Kalil	C	USC	59
3	Charles Johnson	DE	Georgia	83
4	Ryne Robinson	WR	Miami (Ohio)	118
5	Dante Rosario	TE	Oregon	155
5	Tim Shaw	LB	Penn State	164
7	C.J. Wilson	CB	Baylor	226



Carter is a straight-line runner and vertical threat with elite track speed, but he is not a polished route runner and is reluctant to go across the middle. Jarrett doesn't have a lot of speed, but he will go up in the air and win balls and should be a factor in the red zone like Johnson was. Keary Colbert, a starter his first two years in the league, has fallen out of favor in Carolina. Colbert is ideally suited to be a slot receiver, but his hands have been inconsistent after an impressive rookie showing. With long-time starting TE Kris Mangum retiring in the offseason and with a new offensive coordinator who has promised to use the TE position more, this could be a breakout season for Michael Gaines. Gaines has good receiving skills, size and speed and plenty of upside, but he has never been able to put it all together. TE Jeff King caught one pass as a rookie — it went for a one-yard touchdown. King's production should increase in

his second season, but he needs to get stronger and improve his blocking to get on the field more.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ An injury-ravaged offensive line was the Panthers' downfall last season. Jordan Gross played out of position at left tackle after Travelle Wharton suffered a season-ending knee injury in Week One. Gross is athletic and smart and best-suited for the ORT spot because he lacks anchor strength and the ability to finish. When healthy, Wharton is a solid starter who the Panthers would prefer to move inside if they had a better option at left tackle. OLG Mike Wahle is Carolina's most consistent lineman. Wahle is a solid anchor with quick hands, but he lacks a mean streak. Second-round pick Ryan Kalil is a disciplined, technique-sound center who rarely got beat in college. Kalil is expected to start from Day One, replacing Justin Hartwig, who spent most of his first season in Carolina on the bench and could be released before the season. ORG Evan Mathis is stiff and plays too upright. He has natural knee bend but does not use it and struggles to create leverage. Will Montgomery could push Mathis for a starting spot. Montgomery is not athletic, but he is competitive and loaded with intangibles. Geoff Hangartner can play guard or center. Jeremy Bridges is a better third tackle than starter and plays too tall and upright.

## Defense

Mike Trgovac's defense is the one unit that did not disappoint last season. Carolina finished in the top 10 behind a career year from DE Julius Peppers and a beefed-up interior line consisting of DTs Kris Jenkins, Maake Kemoeatu and Damione Lewis. But the LBs corps remains in flux because it has not found a replacement for WLB Will Witherspoon, who left in free agency last offseason, and MLB Dan Morgan's career continues to be derailed by injuries. The Panthers like their trio of corners — Ken Lucas, Chris Gamble and Richard Marshall — but will need to overhaul the safety position with stalwart Mike Minter set to retire after the 2007 season.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Julius Peppers is the most dominant player on the Panthers' defense and one of the elite players in the NFL. Peppers recorded a career-high 13 sacks last season and has posted double-digit sacks in four of his five years in the league. With his long arms and ample 6-foot-7, 283-pound frame, Peppers is also a menace batting down passes at the line of scrimmage and stopping the run. Insiders suggest the only negative with Peppers is that he is too much of a team guy, and that if he were more selfish and nasty, he could have a 20-sack season. The other starting DE spot is up for grabs after long-time starter Mike Rucker suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in Week 15. There is some question as to whether Rucker will be ready for the start



of the season, and he could even miss the entire '07 campaign. Rookie DE Charles Johnson plays hard every snap and should improve the Panthers' pass rush. DE Stanley McClover showed some potential as an edge rusher, but he lacks the strength to be an every-down player at this point. The Panthers have plenty of depth on the interior line. DT Kris Jenkins returned from back-to-back injury-plagued campaigns to start all 16 games last season. When he plays hard, Jenkins is one of the best in the league, but he takes too many plays off. Maake Kemoeatu had a disappointing first year in Charlotte and needs to become tougher, more aggressive and more intense. Damione Lewis, another free-agent addition last year, made a solid first impression. A change of scenery helped Lewis shed the first-round bust label he acquired in St. Louis, and he made a lot of plays for a backup defensive tackle. Lewis is very strong and sheds blocks well. DT Jordan Carstens is a backup with ample starting experience, but he missed time last season with a blood clot in his lung.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Dan Morgan kept a dubious streak alive last season — he has never completed a full 16-game season in his six-year career after missing the final 15 games in '06 because of a concussion. When healthy, Morgan is a Pro Bowl talent, but with his history of concussions, the Panthers can't count on him. SLB Thomas Davis is still a work in progress after completing his first full season at linebacker. Davis played safety as a rookie and is a

tremendous athlete, but he needs to become more instinctive. First-round pick Jon Beason can play any of the three LB positions. Beason should beat out over-the-hill Na'il Diggs for the starting WLB job and could be moved inside if injuries catch up to Morgan again. OLB James Anderson, a third-round pick last year, has a lot of upside, but he is too analytical and does not play fast enough. Adam Seward and rookie Tim Shaw, a fifth-round pick, add depth inside.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ The Panthers have three starters — Ken Lucas, Chris Gamble and Richard Marshall — for two spots at cornerback. Lucas battled multiple injuries last season and saw his production decline. When healthy, Lucas is steady and fluid in his movements. Marshall showed star potential as a rookie and took away starts from Lucas and Gamble while tying for the team lead in interceptions. One scout says Marshall, the 58th overall pick, was the steal of last year's draft.

Gamble was very inconsistent last season, and some NFL people questioned his focus. Gamble is more quick than fast and has good instincts, but he was exposed last year gambling too much and got burned a lot. SS Mike Minter, who has started a franchise-record 141 games, plans to retire after the '07 season. Minter is too slow and could lose his starting job. The other starting safety job is wide open

with journeyman Deke Cooper and second-year pro Nate Salley in the mix, but the Panthers will likely bring in another player or two before the season.

## Special teams

So much for PK John Kasay's career being over. After battling accuracy issues in '05, Kasay rebounded last season to convert a career-best 88.9 percent of his field-goal attempts. The 37-year-old Kasay also led the league with four field goals from 50 yards and beyond, showing that the last remaining member of the Panthers' original team in 1995 still has some juice in his left leg. P Jason Baker led the NFC in net punting average for a second straight season. WR Steve Smith is too valuable to be used in the return game except for the occasional late-game heroics. RB DeAngelo Williams has emerged as a decent option to return kicks.

## Summary

With superstars Steve Smith and Julius Peppers leading the charge, the Panthers have enough talent on both sides of the ball to make another play-off run, but a lack of depth remains a huge concern. QB Jake Delhomme is the key to the postseason puzzle. The Panthers need a bounce-back campaign from Delhomme and a bigger contribution from the running game to make their postseason dreams a reality.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																	
OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
	ATT	COMP	TD	NO	CLY	RD	CH	DAL	TL	STL	WASH	PHIL	NYG	PIT	ARI	NO	
Score	6-20	13-16	26-24	21-18	20-12	23-21	14-17	14-35	24-10	15-0	13-17	24-27	13-27	3-37	10-3	31-21	
Total net yards	215	271	350	324	288	414	277	204	318	411	264	377	463	240	194	313	4923
Rushing yards	65	107	101	167	119	58	60	76	78	242	101	108	45	43	183	106	1659
Passing yards	150	164	249	157	169	356	217	128	240	169	163	269	418	197	11	207	3264
Rushing plays	16	27	28	29	28	30	16	17	30	43	25	23	15	11	52	33	423
Sacks allowed	4	2	3	1	1	1	3	3	0	3	1	0	2	5	3	0	32
Had intercepted	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	2	0	0	17
Fumbles lost	1	1	3	0	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Yards penalized	45	32	40	48	34	20	41	44	70	80	40	67	37	65	62	19	744
Punts	6	9	3	6	9	3	8	6	6	5	8	7	6	7	6	5	100
OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	36:28	33:26	25:37	29:39	31:15	26:11	34:32	38:16	26:44	21:17	29:14	32:23	30:25	37:13	18:13	25:21	29:46
Total net yards	385	365	209	407	248	292	342	414	222	111	253	402	307	306	177	297	4737
Rushing yards	252	140	64	63	91	80	112	156	69	31	143	98	135	159	83	61	1737
Passing yards	133	225	145	344	157	212	230	258	153	80	110	304	172	147	94	236	3000
Rushing plays	47	33	25	23	23	22	30	38	22	8	37	27	35	43	19	17	449
Sacks allowed	1	5	1	1	2	3	2	2	3	7	1	1	1	3	3	5	41
Had intercepted	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	14
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	8
Yards penalized	20	54	56	38	70	40	55	86	71	40	40	72	10	10	35	38	735
Punts	4	7	6	5	7	5	8	4	6	9	8	7	9	3	5	5	98
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Delhomme			2-12-0	3-(-3)-0	1-(-1)-0	2-(-2)-0			3-2-0	3-(-3)-0		1-10-0				3-(-3)-0	18-12-0
Foster	15-54-0	13-26-0	20-82-0	16-105-1	24-106-0	26-58-0	14-59-0	15-50-1	13-48-0	9-63-0			8-23-0	7-42-0	28-102-0	19-79-1	227-897-3
Goings					1-3-0	1-1-0	2-1-0	1-2-0		4-34-0	2-11-0						11-52-0
Hoover			1-4-0	2-3-0					5-14-1	7-34-0	3-7-0		2-5-0		1-4-0	1-2-0	22-73-1
Smith					1-7-0			1-24-1	2-(-5)-0		1-4-0	1-15-0			1-(-5)-0	1-21-0	8-61-1
D. Williams		13-74-1	4-(-1)-0	8-62-0	1-4-0			7-19-0	20-114-0	17-63-0	17-74-0	2-1-0	2-2-0	21-62-0	9-7-0	121-501-1	
PASSING **																	
Delhomme	21-39-1	17-33-0	22-36-0	19-29-0	20-29-0	24-39-2	20-34-1	17-31-1	22-34-1	13-25-1	23-38-2	22-37-2				23-27-0	263-431-11
Weinke	186-0	181-0	272-1	169-2	170-1	365-2	238-2	149-0	240-2	191-1	168-1	269-3	34-61-3	18-28-1	4-7-0	207-2	2805-17
													423-1	170-0	32-1		56-96-4
																	625-2
RECEIVING																	
Carter	5-62-0	4-34-0	1-14-0	1-4-1		4-65-1				3-14-0	1-5-0	8-144-1	1-15-0				28-357-3
Colbert	3-32-0		1-16-0			1-8-0								2-3-0	3-5-0	1-5-0	5-56-0
Foster	4-20-0	2-17-0	3-7-0	1-6-0	3-12-0	2-12-0	4-31-0	2-9-0						3-5-0	1-5-0	3-12-0	32-159-0
Gaines			1-7-0		1-8-0		3-21-0	1-6-0				1-12-0	3-26-0	4-54-0		1-12-0	15-146-0
Goings						2-33-0	1-20-1	2-9-0		2-25-0	2-17-0	1-3-0					10-107-1
Hoover	1-0-0	1-0-0	2-19-0			1-9-0	2-20-0		3-18-0	1-(-3)-0	3-23-0	2-6-0		1-8-0		3-22-0	20-122-0
Johnson	4-40-0	5-106-0	7-97-1	6-63-0	5-67-1	5-46-0	4-41-0	1-19-0	6-37-1	4-55-0	6-38-0	4-65-1	5-51-0	4-45-0	1-21-0	3-24-0	70-815-4
Mangum	3-24-0				5-21-0	1-3-0	3-11-1	1-14-0	1-10-0		1-19-0	2-23-0	4-45-0				21-170-1
Smith			7-112-0	10-87-1	6-62-0	8-189-1	8-126-0	6-55-0	8-149-1	4-90-1	5-34-1	4-54-1	5-67-0	5-56-0		7-85-2	83-1166-8
D. Williams	1-8-0	5-24-0		1-9-0					1-11-0	2-24-0	3-23-0	7-101-1	4-45-0	2-11-0	1-5-0	6-52-0	33-313-1

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Carolina Panthers

800 South Mint Street  
Charlotte, NC 28202  
704/358-7000  
Official Website: www.panthers.com  
Stadium: Bank of America Stadium  
Capacity: 73,298  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 8-8; Second in NFC South

John Fox

**Owner/founder:** Jerry Richardson; **President-Panthers Stadium, LLC:** Jon Richardson; **President-Panthers Football, LLC:** Mark Richardson; **General manager:** Marty Hurney; **Director of college scouting:** Don Gregory; **Director of pro scouting:** Mark Koncz

**Head coach:** John Fox

**Assistant coaches:** Geep Chryst, *tight ends/quality control-offense*; Danny Crossman, *special teams*; Jeff Davidson, *offensive coordinator*; Ken Flajole, *linebackers*; Mike Gillhamer, *secondary/safeties*; Tony Levine, *special-teams assistant/asst. strength and conditioning*; Tim Lewis, *secondary*; David Magazu, *offensive line*; Mike McCoy, *quarterbacks/passing coordinator*; Sam Mills III, *quality control-defense*; Jerry Simmons, *strength and conditioning*; Jim Skipper, *asst. head coach/running backs*; Sal Sunseri, *defensive line*; Mike Trgovac, *defensive coordinator*; Richard Williamson, *wide receivers*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE			
WR	89 SMITH	18 Carter	10 Robinson*
OLT	70 WHARTON	79 Butler	
OLG	68 WAHLE	76 Batiste	
C	65 KALLIL*	75 Hartwig	63 Hangartner
ORG	71 MATHIS	66 Montgomery	
ORT	69 GROSS	73 Bridges	
TE	84 GAINES	87 King	88 Rosario*
WR	82 JARRETT*	83 Colbert	81 Horn
QB	17 DELHOMME	8 Carr	14 Basanez
RB	26 FOSTER	34 D. Williams	32 Shelton 37 Goings
FB	45 HOOVER	48 Jackson	
DEFENSE			
DLE	90 PEPPERS	74 McClover	
DLT	99 KEMOEATU	67 Carstens	91 Lavalais
DRT	77 JENKINS	92 Lewis	94 Moorehead
DRE	93 RUCKER	95 C. Johnson*	96 Ball
SLB	58 DAVIS	54 Melton	57 Jamison
MLB	55 MORGAN	52 Beason*	59 Seward 49 Shaw*
WLB	52 BEASON*	53 Diggins	50 Anderson
LCB	21 LUCAS	25 Morton	41 Deloatch
RCB	20 GAMBLE	31 Marshall	22 Strait
SS	30 MINTER	29 Newton	
FS	35 COOPER	33 Salley	27 Wilson*
SPECIALISTS			
P	7 BAKER		
PK	4 KASAY	Wellock*	
H	7 BAKER		
PR	10 ROBINSON*	20 Gamble	
KR	34 D. WILLIAMS	31 Marshall	
LS	56 KYLE		

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at St. Louis	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	Houston	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Atlanta	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	Tampa Bay	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 7	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Arizona	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 21	BYE	
Oct. 28	Indianapolis	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Atlanta	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Green Bay	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	New Orleans	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	San Francisco	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Seattle	1 p.m.
Dec. 22	Dallas	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Tampa Bay	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Carolina

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Atlanta	(-4)	6-20
Sept. 17	at Minnesota	(+2.5)	13-16*
Sept. 24	at Tampa Bay	(-3.5)	26-24
Oct. 1	New Orleans	(-7)	21-18
Oct. 8	Cleveland	(-7.5)	20-12
Oct. 15	at Baltimore	(+3)	23-21
Oct. 22	at Cincinnati	(+3)	14-17
Oct. 29	Dallas	(-4)	14-35
Nov. 5	BYE		
Nov. 13	Tampa Bay	(-10)	24-10
Nov. 19	St. Louis	(-6)	15-0
Nov. 26	at Washington	(-6)	13-17
Dec. 4	at Philadelphia	(-3)	24-27
Dec. 10	New York Giants	(+3)	13-27
Dec. 17	Pittsburgh	(+3)	3-37
Dec. 24	at Atlanta	(+6)	10-3
Dec. 31	at New Orleans	(-3)	31-21

\* OVERTIME

## PANTHERS ROSTER

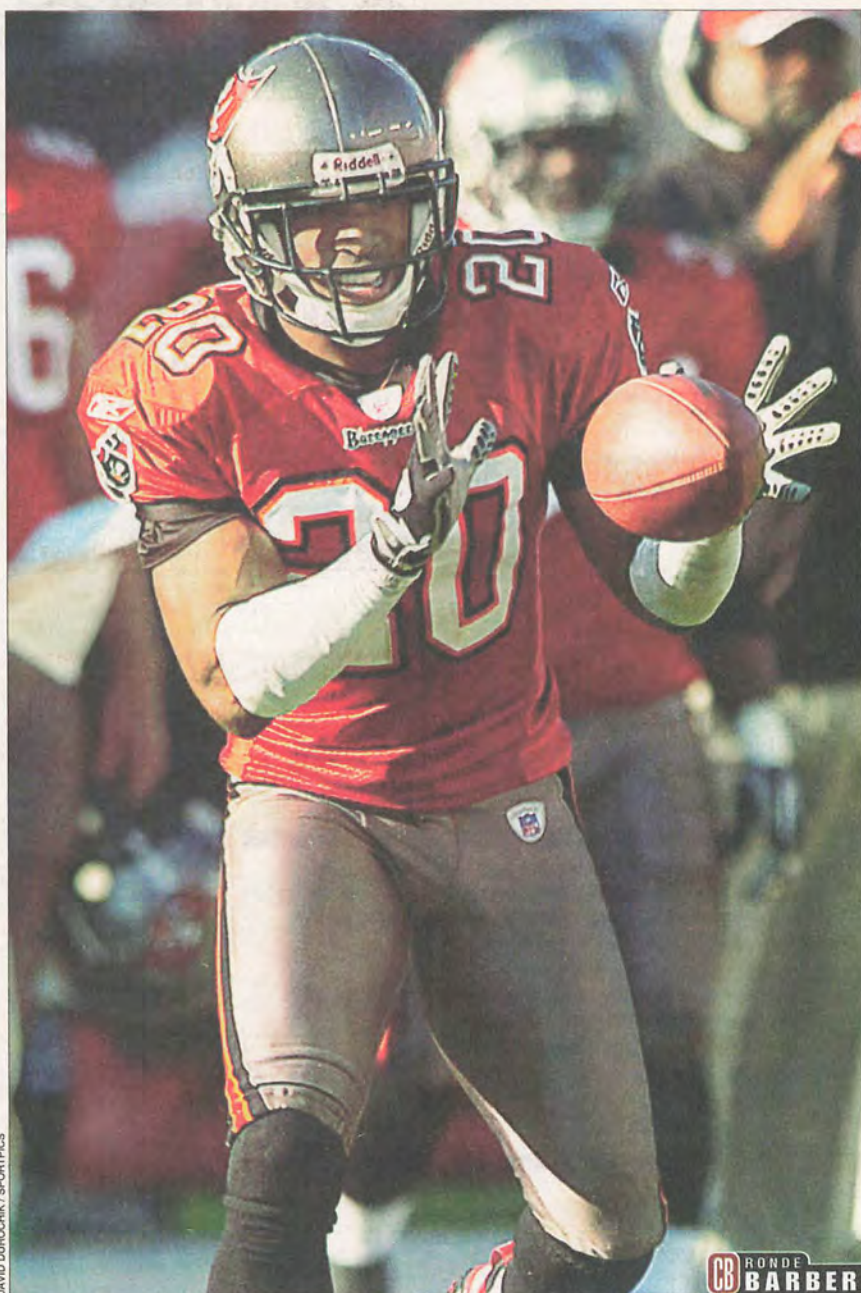
NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
50	Anderson, James	LB	6-2	232	2	Virginia Tech	16/2
7	Baker, Jason	P	6-2	205	7	Iowa	16/0
96	Ball, Dave	DE	6-5	277	4	UCLA	10/0
14	Basanez, Brett	QB	6-2	210	2	Northwestern	1/0
76	Batiste, D'Anthony	OG	6-4	318	2	Louisiana-Lafayette	0/0
52	Beason, Jon	LB	6-0	237	R	Miami (Fla.)	
	Bell, Dalton	QB	6-2	206	R	West Texas A&M	
	Bennett, Nathan	OG	6-4	312	R	Clemson	
11	Biddle, Taye	WR	6-1	175	2	Mississippi	2/0
	Biggs, Rondell	DE	6-1	269	R	Michigan	
73	Bridges, Jeremy	OT	6-4	326	5	Southern Mississippi	14/14
79	Butler, Rashad	OT	6-4	293	2	Miami (Fla.)	0/0
23	Byrum, Dion	CB	5-10	192	2	Ohio	3/0
8	Carr, David	QB	6-3	216	6	Fresno State	16/16
67	Carstens, Jordan	DT	6-5	300	4	Iowa State	1/0
18	Carter, Drew	WR	6-3	200	4	Ohio State	14/2
83	Colbert, Keary	WR	6-1	200	4	USC	12/3
35	Cooper, Deke	S	6-2	210	5	Notre Dame	1/0
	Curvey, Brent	DT	6-0	302	R	Iowa State	
	Daniels, Jesse	S	5-11	209	R	LSU	
58	Davis, Thomas	LB	6-0	231	3	Georgia	14/14
17	Delhomme, Jake	QB	6-2	215	9	Louisiana-Lafayette	13/13
41	Deloatch, Curtis	CB	6-2	214	4	North Carolina A&T	7/0
53	Diggins, Na'il	LB	6-4	240	8	Ohio State	15/10
26	Foster, DeShaun	RB	6-0	222	6	UCLA	14/14
84	Gaines, Michael	TE	6-3	280	4	Central Florida	16/9
20	Gamble, Chris	CB	6-1	200	4	Ohio State	15/13
	Garrett, Kevin	CB	5-9	194	3	Southern Methodist	
	Gilmore, Jahkeem	WR	5-11	205	R	Indiana	
37	Goings, Nick	RB	6-0	225	7	Pittsburgh	11/0
	Graham, Eric	OT	6-5	326	R	East Carolina	
60	Grigsby, Otis	DE	6-3	260	2	Kentucky	0/0
69	Gross, Jordan	OT	6-4	300	5	Utah	16/16
	Hall, Jason	DE	6-2	253	1	Tennessee	0/0
63	Hangartner, Geoff	C	6-5	301	3	Texas A&M	16/15
75	Hartwig, Justin	C	6-4	312	6	Kansas	2/1
24	Haynes, Alex	RB	5-10	223	1	Central Florida	0/0
45	Hoover, Brad	FB	6-0	245	8	Western Carolina	16/12
81	Horn, Chris	WR	5-11	195	4	Rocky Mountain	0/0
48	Jackson, Steven	FB	6-2	260	1	Clemson	0/0
57	Jamison, Brandon	LB	6-1	205	2	West Georgia	4/0
82	Jarrett, Dwayne	WR	6-4	219	R	USC	
77	Jenkins, Kris	DT	6-4	335	7	Maryland	16/16
95	Johnson, Charles	DE	6-2	270	R	Georgia	
65	Kallil, Ryan	C	6-3	291	R	USC	
4	Kasay, John	PK	5-10	198	17	Georgia	16/0
99	Kemoeatu, Maake	DT	6-5	350	6	Utah	16/13
87	King, Jeff	TE	6-3	253	2	Virginia Tech	12/0
56	Kyle, Jason	LS	6-3	242	13	Arizona State	16/0
	Latkso, Billy	FB	5-10	230	R	Florida	
91	Lavalais, Chad	DT	6-1	292	3	LSU	0/0
92	Lewis, Damione	DT	6-2	301	7	Miami (Fla.)	16/3
21	Lucas, Ken	CB	6-0	205	7	Mississippi	13/12
31	Marshall, Richard	CB	5-11	189	2	Fresno State	16/8
71	Mathis, Evan	OG	6-5	304	3	Alabama	15/15
	McClellan, Julius	WR	6-3	246	R	North Carolina Central	
74	McClover, Stanley	DE	6-2	263	2	Auburn	2/0
12	McCullum, Justin	WR	6-4	220	1	Stanford	0/0
54	Melton, Terrence	LB	6-1	235	4	Rice	16/0
30	Minter, Mike	S	5-10	195	11	Nebraska	16/16
66	Montgomery, Will	OG-C	6-3	312	2	Virginia Tech	6/4
94	Moorehead, Kindal	DT	6-2	285	5	Alabama	16/0
55	Morgan, Dan	LB	6-2	245	7	Miami (Fla.)	1/1
25	Morton, Christian	CB	6-0	181	3	Illinois	7/2
29	Newton, Cam	S	6-1	203	3	Furman	0/0
90	Peppers, Julius	DE	6-7	283	6	North Carolina	16/16
	Pimentel, Mickey	LB	6-0	235	R	California	
	Riley, Rueben	OG	6-3	305	R	Michigan	
10	Robinson, Ryne	WR-RS	5-9	179	R	Miami (Ohio)	
88	Rosario, Dante	TE-FB	6-3	241	R	Oregon	
93	Rucker, Mike	DE	6-5	275	9	Nebraska	14/14
33	Salley, Nate	S	6-1	216	2	Ohio State	8/0
	Sciullo, Steve	OG	6-5	325	3	Marshall	0/0
59	Seward, Adam	LB	6-2	248	3	UNLV	16/2
49	Shaw, Tim	LB	6-1	236	R	Penn State	
32	Shelton, Eric	RB	6-1	246	3	Louisville	9/0
89	Smith, Steve	WR	5-9	185	7	Utah	14/14
22	Strait, Derrick	CB	5-11	189	4	Oklahoma	2/0
	Teal, Quinton	S	6-1	198	R	Coastal Carolina	
	Thornton, Marques	DT	6-1	285	R	Texas A&M	
	Upshaw, Chad	TE	6-4	249	R	Buffalo	
68	Wahle, Mike	OG	6-6	304	10	Navy	13/13
	Watson, Theodric	OT	6-3	302	R	South Florida	
	Wellock, Andrew	PK	5-11	182	R	Eastern Michigan	
70	Wharton, Travelle	OT	6-4	312	4	South Carolina	1/1
38	Wilds, Garnell	CB	5-11	195	1	Virginia Tech	0/0
34	Williams, DeAngelo	RB	5-9	217	2	Memphis	13/2
98	Williams, Stephen	DT	6-2	306	2	NW Missouri State	11/0
27	Wilson, C.J.	S	6-1	196	R	Baylor	
80	Youngblood, Kevin	WR	6-5	215	2	Clemson	1/0



TAMPA BAY

## BUCCANEERS

DAVID DUROCHIK / SPORTSPICS



CB RONDE BARBER

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **6-10** 3rd place /  
NFC South

The Buccaneers had a turnaround alright, just in the wrong direction. They went from first to worst in 2006 — their second trip to the NFC South cellar in three seasons and third losing season in the four years since winning Super Bowl XXXVII.

Because he has only produced two winning campaigns in

his five-year tenure in Tampa, head coach Jon Gruden enters the '07 season on the hot seat.

And the Buccaneers approached the offseason like a team in need of a quick fix. They attacked the

free-agent market and brought in several 30-somethings to supplant or at least push the young starters with hope of producing another worst-to-first turnaround like they did in '05.

## Offense

Jon Gruden's complex West Coast offense is not kid-friendly, as the Buccaneers found out the past two years with Chris Simms and Bruce Gradkowski under center. Gruden hopes to have remedied this by signing free agent Jeff Garcia, who appeared in three Pro Bowls operating the West Coast offense in San Francisco and who salvaged the Eagles' (another West Coast offense) season in 2006. Garcia and

Simms will technically compete for the starter's job in training camp, but with Gruden on the hot seat this season, it appears to be Garcia's job to lose. RB Cadillac Williams was mired in a sophomore funk running behind a patchwork offensive line and with a rookie under center for much of the season. Williams should improve in '07 running behind a better offensive line and with an improved passing game. WR Joey Galloway is a true No. 1 wideout, but there is little talent behind him.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Jeff Garcia still has some life left in his 37-year-old arm and legs. Garcia doesn't have Chris Simms' arm strength, but he doesn't need it in Jon Gruden's system. Garcia is more accurate than



Simms and excels with the type of short passes Gruden calls for. Garcia is very mobile in the pocket and throws well on the run — two qualities Gruden has always admired in quarterbacks. Simms has all the physical tools desired in a signalcaller. He is tall, has good arm strength, is accurate and puts good touch on his deep passes. But Simms' passes get batted at the line of scrimmage too often because he has a low release point. Simms also puts too much velocity on short passes and has questionable pocket presence. Luke McCown, who was competing for the No. 2 QB job last offseason before suffering a knee injury prior to training camp, is the best athlete of the bunch. McCown has questionable arm strength but is very accurate. Bruce Gradkowski started 11 games as a rookie after Simms went down and is a tough, feisty competitor. He is athletic and very accurate with his passes, but he has a low release point, struggles reading defenses and lacks the arm strength to throw deep balls.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Cadillac Williams' sophomore slump was not entirely his fault. The Buccaneers got behind early and often, taking the reigning Rookie of the Year out of games. Williams finished with 65 fewer carries, 380 fewer rushing yards and five fewer touchdowns than in his rookie campaign. Williams runs bigger than his size and has all the tools — vision, burst, speed — to become one of the top running backs in the league. He still needs to improve his blocking, as he is too inconsistent in pass protection. Michael Pittman is an underrated backup. Pittman is a physical runner with good acceleration, and he has starting experience. Scouts say his greatest attributes are as a receiver — he looks like a polished wide receiver when running routes and will get separation. Earnest Graham gives the Buccaneers versatility because he can play running back and fullback. Graham is a straight-line runner and not very elusive. FB Mike Alstott delayed retirement another year when he signed a one-year deal in the offseason. Alstott is on the downside of his career, and his greatest value is as a short-yardage runner or receiver. Alstott is not a physical blocker, so the Buccaneers signed free-agent FB B.J. Askew, a more traditional lead blocker. Askew is a former running back with good hands.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Jon Gruden's offense is designed to get the ball to Joey Galloway, the team's biggest playmaker. Galloway is a quick, solid route runner with soft hands. At 35, Galloway still has elite speed and is showing no signs of slowing down. He has posted back-to-back 1,000-yard-receiving campaigns and has scored 17 touchdowns in that stretch. Michael Clayton is beginning to look more like a bust than a budding star. The former first-round pick has battled injuries and inconsistency in the two seasons since his tremendous rookie campaign. Clayton is a big, physical receiver, but he does not have great burst or acceleration and is a long strider. Maurice Stovall did not see



**ORG DAVIN JOSEPH**  
If Cadillac Williams is going to bounce back from his sophomore slump, it will be from running behind a dominating blocker like Joseph.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
**No. 2 WR:**  
**MICHAEL CLAYTON vs. MAURICE STOVALL**  
After another unproductive season, Clayton is beginning to look more like a bust while Stovall could be a dangerous red-zone target.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
FB B.J. Askew, DE Kevin Carter, QB Jeff Garcia, LB Cato June, OT Luke Petitgout, DT Ryan Sims, TE Jeramy Stevens.  
**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
OG Sean Mahan, LB Shelton Quarles, OT Kenya Walker, DE Dewayne White.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Gaines Adams	DE	Clemson	4
2	Arron Sears	OG-OT	Tennessee	35
2	Sabby Piscitelli	SS	Oregon State	64
3	Quincy Black	OLB	New Mexico	68
4	Tanard Jackson	FS	Syracuse	106
5	Greg Peterson	DT	N. Carolina Central	141
6	Adam Hayward	OLB	Portland State	182
7	Chris Denman	OT	Fresno State	214
7	Marcus Hamilton	CB	Virginia	245
7	Kenneth Darby	RB	Alabama	246



the field until late in his rookie season, but he has excellent size and strength to out-muscle defenders. Stovall lacks deep speed and needs to improve his route-running, but he could become a dangerous red-zone target. Ike Hilliard is a savvy veteran who finds holes in coverage. After cutting David Boston on the eve of the '06 season, the Buccaneers brought back the troubled former Pro Bowler in the offseason. Some believe Boston can still be a weapon if he can stay healthy, but his dedication in the weight room has made him almost too muscular for the position. Paris Warren has good hands and will catch passes over the middle, but he is not a burner. League evaluators like the Buccaneers' 1-2 punch at the TE position. Alex Smith is an athletic, receiving type, and Anthony Becht is a physical blocker. Smith can get separation from defenders with his speed and is a good pass

catcher. Becht is an aggressive run blocker and solid in pass protection. The Buccaneers added more depth to the TE position on draft weekend, signing ex-Seahawk Jeramy Stevens. A former first-round pick, the 6-foot-7 Stevens creates plenty of mismatches, especially in the red zone.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ After getting younger last offseason by using first- and second-round draft picks on offensive linemen, the Buccaneers added a veteran presence this spring in free-agent OT Luke Petitgout, who is expected to replace Anthony Davis at left tackle. Scouts say Petitgout is a solid technician and was a good signing by Tampa Bay. Davis will likely serve as a backup at the OT and OG positions. Second-round pick Arron Sears is expected to start at the OLG spot from Day One and could be moved outside if injuries creep up on Petitgout again. Dan Buenning, a starting guard for his first two seasons, could be moved to the C position, where he would replace aging John Wade. Buenning is an assignment-sound technician and plays with a mean streak, but his play slipped during an injury-plagued '06 campaign. Wade is an intelligent player who shows good effort, and he gets good pad level for a taller center. ORG Davin Joseph, a first-round pick last year, was the team's best lineman in '06. Joseph is an aggressive and dominating run blocker with the speed and athleticism to get to the second level. ORT Jeremy Trueblood, a second-round pick in '06, has good size with long arms. Trueblood tends to play high and can struggle in pass protection. A lanky 6-foot-8 frame makes it hard for Trueblood to play with leverage in the running game. Jeb Terry and free-agent addition Matt Lehr both have starting experience.

## Defense

Age and injury finally caught up to the once-vaunted Buccaneers defense. A core group of DE Simeon Rice, WLB Derrick Brooks, MLB Shelton Quarles, DE Greg Spires and CBs Ronde Barber and Brian Kelly that had dominated the league for the past decade fell out of the top 10 in total defense for the first time since 1996. To rebound from their forgettable 2006 campaign, the Buccaneers need to improve the pass rush. They finished second to last in the league in sacks with 25.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ DE Simeon Rice battled a shoulder injury, appearing in only eight games, and produced the fewest sacks of his career. When healthy, Rice is an explosive pass rusher who takes a finesse approach vs. the run. Rice's greatest attribute is his ability to speed rush and his quickness off the ball. Free-agent addition Kevin Carter gives the Buccaneers some versatility. A premiere pass rusher early in his career, Carter played both the DE and DT positions for the Dolphins the past two years. Carter is still a strong pass rusher and tough against the run. DE Greg Spires could lose playing



time to Carter, who is better at getting to the quarterback. Spires is an overachiever and good vs. the run, but he is not a great pass rusher. First-round pick DE Gaines Adams is being groomed as Rice's future replacement. Adams has an explosive first step and closing speed, but he takes plays off. DT Chris Hovan plays with great strength and sheds blocks quickly. Scouts say Hovan was the Buccaneers' most consistent defensive player last season, especially vs. the run. Ellis Wyms replaced Anthony McFarland in the starting lineup last season after McFarland was dealt to the Colts. Wyms is quick-twitched and really athletic, and he is a better pass rusher than he is stopping the run. Durability was an issue for him last season with a heavier workload. The Bucs added ex-Chiefs DT Ryan Sims to help bolster the depth inside. A career underachiever, Sims has the speed to fit Tampa Bay's scheme.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Derrick Brooks traveled to Hawaii for his 10th straight Pro Bowl in February after leading the Buccaneers in tackles, but Brooks' best days are behind him. Brooks is on the decline because of how he uncharacteristically missed a lot of tackles last season. Brooks still has good range and instincts, but the Buccaneers have an heir to his WLB spot waiting in the wings. Free-agent signee Cato June is an undersized, athletic outside linebacker in the Brooks mold who played in a cover-2 defense in Indianapolis. The 27-year-old

June is viewed as the heir to Brooks' WLB spot. But until he replaces Brooks, June will be used on passing downs and could win the starting SLB job. Barrett Ruud has been patiently waiting to take over for stalwart MLB Shelton Quarles for the past two seasons, and he will finally get his chance after Quarles, who was limited to 12 games in '06 because of injuries, was released in April. Ruud is bigger than a typical Tampa-2 linebacker and not as athletic, but he is instinctive and intelligent and plays with a high motor. Ryan Nece is thinly built for the strong side and struggles to get off blocks. Jamie Winborn is a solid backup at either OLB spot, but his athleticism makes him a better fit at the WLB position. Rookie Quincy Black, a third-round pick, has blazing speed but will probably make his mark on special teams for now.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Ronde Barber is the poster child for cover-2 cornerbacks — he is smart, physical and one of the best tackling cornerbacks in the league. Barber is savvy and not afraid to jump routes, but he is not as good in man coverage. CB Brian Kelly missed 14 games with a foot injury last season. When healthy, Kelly is not as physical as Barber, but he is more athletic and better in man coverage. Tampa re-signed Phillip Buchanon, and he could emerge as a solid nickel corner or even a starter if Kelly is not healthy. Buchanon is very athletic, but he is undersized, not all that physical and has a long injury history. Safeties Will Allen

and Jermaine Phillips are both very physical, but they are unreliable tacklers in space.

**B** Allen is athletic with adequate speed. Phillips is aggressive in run support and has very good straight-line speed, but no change of direction. Calvin Pearson has better change of direction and could garner more playing time. Second-round pick Sabby Piscitelli is stiff-hipped and misses too many tackles. He has limited coverage skills and is best used in the box.

## Special teams

The Buccaneers locked up P Josh Bidwell with a long-term extension late last season, and he is in the upper echelon of NFL punters. Bidwell gets his kicks off fast and has a strong leg, but he sometimes gets too much air under his kicks for the coverage units.

**GRADE B** PK Matt Bryant's field-goal accuracy dropped last season, but he ratcheted up his flair for the dramatics with his 62-yard game-winning field goal against the Eagles in Week Seven. The Buccaneers are still trying to get a handle on their return game.

## Summary

This could be a make-or-break season for head coach Jon Gruden and GM Bruce Allen, as evidenced by their veteran additions in free agency. If Gruden and Allen do not produce a winner this season, the Glazer family could opt to clean house. The offense needs more balance and the aging defense needs to rally for another dominating campaign if the Bucs are to make significant improvements in '07.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

Team Statistics																	
	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	BALT.	@ATL	CAR.	@NO.	CHI.	PHIL.	@NYG.	IND.	@CAR.	WASH.	@DAL.	@PIT.	ATL.	@CHI.	@CIN.	SEA.	
Score	0-27	3-14	24-26	21-24	14-13	23-21	3-17	14-31	10-24	20-17	10-38	3-20	6-17	31-34	22-7	7-23	
Total net yards	142	351	209	406	300	196	174	226	222	359	211	254	272	357	355	287	4321
Rushing yards	26	40	64	187	126	111	40	68	69	181	101	110	80	57	153	110	1523
Passing yards	116	311	145	219	174	85	134	158	153	178	110	144	192	300	202	177	2798
Rushing plays	13	16	25	33	25	30	13	18	22	42	24	30	29	19	44	21	404
Sacks allowed	3	1	1	2	2	2	2	4	3	0	1	5	1	2	3	1	33
Had intercepted	3	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	3	0	1	1	0	18
Fumbles lost	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	14
Yards penalized	21	99	56	66	75	15	30	25	71	35	55	40	10	73	10	51	732
Punts	8	4	6	6	7	6	9	8	6	3	4	6	4	11	2	3	99

	OPPONENT STATISTICS																
Time of poss.***	35:49	34:09	34:23	29:23	24:53	28:59	35:38	37:21	33:16	23:59	37:17	28:59	30:29	35:15	22:44	37:20	31:52
Total net yards	271	382	350	314	305	506	251	363	318	252	435	267	280	446	187	344	5271
Rushing yards	103	306	101	143	53	208	108	49	78	59	137	76	139	134	91	132	1917
Passing yards	168	76	249	171	252	298	143	314	240	193	298	191	141	312	96	212	3354
Rushing plays	34	44	28	25	20	27	35	35	30	21	37	31	34	34	20	42	497
Sacks allowed	1	3	3	0	2	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	2	4	3	1	25
Had intercepted	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	4	0	11
Fumbles lost	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	9
Yards penalized	25	83	40	49	84	65	40	25	70	19	19	15	10	79	15	20	658
Punts	6	2	3	8	7	3	9	6	6	5	2	5	4	10	3	2	81

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
RUSHING																	
Alstott	1-2-0		3-12-0	4-3-1					2-3-0	6-28-0	2-4-1	6-13-0	2-20-0	6-26-1	22-56-0	6-4-0	60-171-3
Gradkowski				6-19-0	4-19-0	3-11-0	3-18-0	2-12-0	5-22-0	6-9-0	4-17-0	6-26-0	2-8-0				41-161-0
Pittman	3-(-1)-0		1-3-0	2-27-0	1-11-0	3-14-0	2-2-0	1-3-0		2-17-0	1-2-0	1-(-1)-0	3-4-0	2-5-0	16-86-1	12-73-0	50-245-1
Simms	1-3-0	1-3-0	2-1-1														4-7-1
C. Williams	8-22-0	15-37-0	19-48-1	20-111-0	19-94-0	23-82-0	8-20-0	12-39-0	15-44-0	27-122-0	17-78-0	11-27-0	20-48-0	11-26-0			225-798-1

[illegible]

RECEIVING																	
Alstott	3-26-0	3-10-0	2-(-3)-0		3-10-0	2-0-0		2-16-0		2-16-0	1-8-0	1-4-0	1-6-0	2-4-0	1-4-0		21-85-0
Becht	4-27-0	2-10-0		1-13-0	1-12-0	1-1-0	2-16-0			2-9-1	2-10-0				2-12-0	1-5-0	18-115-1
Clayton	3-34-0	5-62-0	1-14-0	1-7-0	6-55-1	3-30-0	1-4-0	4-38-0	2-22-0	1-14-0	2-19-0	4-57-0					33-356-1
Galloway		9-161-0	1-8-1	4-110-1	7-67-0		4-32-0	4-97-2	5-87-0	4-64-1	3-71-0	3-37-0	5-64-0	3-107-1	2-34-0	8-118-1	62-1057-7
Hilliard		6-53-0	1-16-0	4-34-0		1-7-0	1-3-0	1-10-0	4-30-1	1-12-0	1-3-0	2-13-0	4-32-0	3-55-1	4-67-0	1-4-0	34-339-2
Pittman	1-7-0	3-17-0	2-25-0	2-31-0	2-20-0	2-23-0	5-38-0	6-27-0	1-0-0	2-31-0	2-19-0	1-7-0	7-73-0	4-30-0	4-21-0	3-36-0	47-405-0
Smith	2-18-0		4-72-0	5-16-1	3-10-1	1-6-0	2-12-0	2-8-0	3-18-0				2-4-0	2-17-0	5-24-1	4-45-0	35-250-3
Stovall													1-11-0	3-42-0	2-45-0	1-4-0	7-102-0
C. Williams	5-25-0		2-16-0	3-14-0	3-10-0	2-11-0	5-34-0	1-5-0		2-34-0			4-30-0	1-5-0	2-12-0		30-196-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Jon Gruden

## Tampa Bay Buccaneers

One Buccaneer Place  
Tampa, FL 33607  
813/870-2700  
Official Website: www.buccaneers.com  
Stadium: Raymond James Stadium  
Capacity: 65,657  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 4-12; Fourth in NFC South

**Owner/president:** Malcolm Glazer; **Executive V.P.:** Joel Glazer; **Executive V.P.:** Bryan Glazer; **Executive V.P.:** Edward Glazer; **General manager:** Bruce Allen; **Director of football operations:** Mark Artega; **Director of pro personnel:** Mark Dominik; **Director of college scouting:** Dennis Hickey

**Head coach:** Jon Gruden

**Assistant coaches:** Tim Berbenich, *offensive quality control*; Richard Bisaccia, *special-teams coordinator*; Casey Bradley, *linebackers*; Bob Casullo, *tight ends*; Larry Coyer, *asst. head coach/defensive line*; Jay Gruden, *offensive assistant*; Paul Hackett, *quarterbacks*; Nathaniel Hackett, *offensive quality control*; Paul Kelly, *assistant to the head coach-football operations*; Monte Kiffin, *defensive coordinator*; Aaron Kromer, *senior assistant/offensive line*; Jimmy Lake, *asst. defensive backs*; Richard Mann, *wide receivers*; Mike Morris, *head strength and conditioning*; Bill Muir, *offensive coordinator/offensive line*; Kurt Schultz, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Art Valero, *asst. head coach/running backs*; Todd Walsh, *defensive quality control*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE				
WR	84 GALLOWAY	19 Hilliard	11 Boston	
OLT	79 PETTIGOUT	69 A. Davis	70 Penn	
OLG	SEARS*	72 Buehning	Lehr	
C	76 WADE	72 Buehning	66 Muhlhauser	
ORG	75 JOSEPH	Lehr	77 Terry	
ORT	85 TRUEBLOOD	70 Penn		
TE	88 BECHT	81 A. Smith	Stevens	87 Heinrich
WR	85 STOVALL	80 Clayton	82 Warren	
QB	7 GARCIA	2 Simms	5 Gradkowski	12 McCown
RB	24 C. WILLIAMS	32 Pittman	34 Graham	Darby*
FB	35 ASKEW	40 Alstott		
DEFENSE				
DLE	94 SPIRES	93 Carter	92 Bennett	
DLT	95 HOVAN	Sims	98 Bradley	71 Haye
DRT	96 WYMS	93 Carter	Peterson*	
DRE	97 RICE	Adams*	54 Chukwurah	91 Jenkins
SLB	59 JUNE	56 Nece	54 Chukwurah	
MLB	51 RUUD	59 June	52 Cash	
WLB	55 BROOKS	50 Winborn	Black*	
LCB	25 KELLY	31 Buchanan	29 Zemaitis	
RCB	20 BARBER	27 Cox	22 S. Davis	
SS	23 PHILLIPS	Piscitelli*	30 Nicholson	
FS	20 ALLEN	Jackson*	39 Pearson	
SPECIALISTS				
P	9 BIDWELL			
PK	3 BRYANT			
H	9 BIDWELL			
PR	89 JONES	17 Owens	27 Cox	
KR	32 PITTMAN	89 Jones	17 Owens	
LS	48 ECONOMOS			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Seattle	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	New Orleans	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	St. Louis	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Carolina	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 7	at Indianapolis	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 14	Tennessee	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Detroit	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	Jacksonville	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 4	Arizona	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	BYE	
Nov. 18	at Atlanta	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	Washington	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Houston	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Atlanta	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at San Francisco	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 30	Carolina	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Tampa Bay

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Baltimore	(-3)	0-27
Sept. 17	at Atlanta	(+4)	3-14
Sept. 24	Carolina	(+3.5)	24-26
Oct. 1	BYE		
Oct. 8	at New Orleans	(+7)	21-24
Oct. 15	Cincinnati	(+4.5)	14-13
Oct. 22	Philadelphia	(+6.5)	23-21
Oct. 29	at New York Giants	(+9)	3-17
Nov. 5	New Orleans	(-1)	14-31
Nov. 13	at Carolina	(+10)	10-24
Nov. 19	Washington	(-3)	20-17
Nov. 23	at Dallas	(+12.5)	10-38
Dec. 3	at Pittsburgh	(+8.5)	3-20
Dec. 10	Atlanta	(+3.5)	6-17
Dec. 17	at Chicago	(+13.5)	31-34*
Dec. 24	at Cleveland	(+3)	22-7
Dec. 31	Seattle	(-3)	7-23

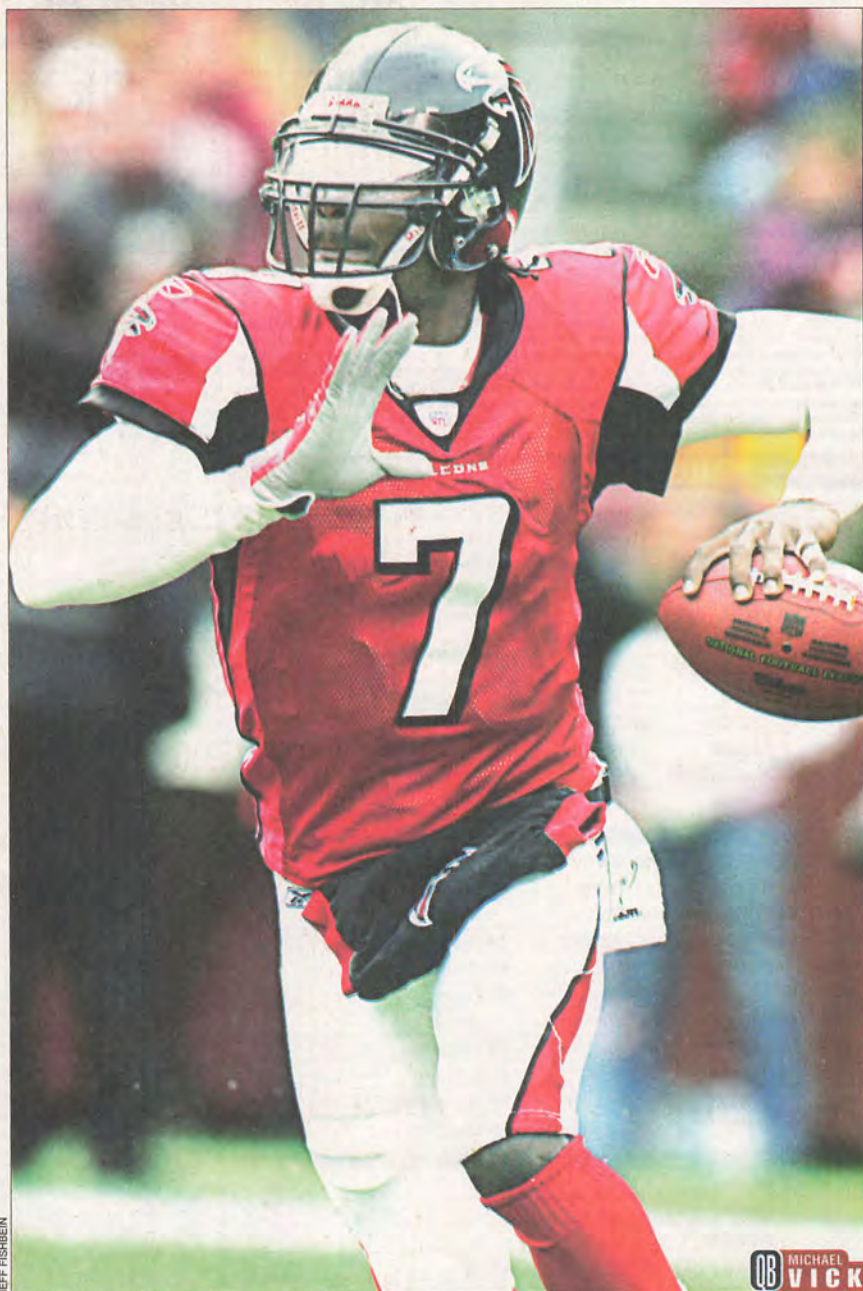
\* OVERTIME

## BUCCANEERS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
	Adams, Gaines	DE	6-5	260	R	Clemson	
26	Allen, Will	S	6-1	200	4	Ohio State	16/16
40	Alstott, Mike	FB	6-1	248	12	Purdue	16/15
35	Askew, B.J.	FB	6-3	233	5	Michigan	13/5
20	Barber, Ronde	CB	5-10	184	11	Virginia	16/16
88	Becht, Anthony	TE	6-5	272	8	West Virginia	16/16
49	Benjamin, Evan	LB	6-0	222	1	Washington	0/0
92	Bennett, Charles	DE	6-3	254	2	Clemson	3/0
9	Bidwell, Josh	P	6-3	220	8	Oregon	16/0
	Black, Quincy	LB	6-2	227	R	New Mexico	
11	Boston, David	WR	6-2	228	8	Ohio State	0/0
1	Bouknight, Jovon	WR	6-1	191	1	Wyoming	0/0
98	Bradley, Jon	DT	6-0	301	4	Arkansas State	7/3
55	Brooks, Derrick	LB	6-0	235	13	Florida State	16/16
3	Bryant, Matt	PK	5-9	200	6	Baylor	16/0
31	Buchanan, Phillip	CB	5-11	186	6	Miami	10/4
72	Buenning, Dan	C-OG	6-4	320	3	Wisconsin	10/7
60	Campbell, Darrell	DT	6-4	295	1	Notre Dame	0/0
93	Carter, Kevin	DE	6-6	305	13	Florida	16/16
52	Cash, Antoine	LB	6-1	223	2	Southern Mississippi	16/0
54	Chukwurah, Patrick	DE-LB	6-1	250	5	Wyoming	14/0
80	Clayton, Michael	WR	6-4	215	4	LSU	12/9
62	Clinkscale, Jonathan	C-OG	6-2	315	1	Wisconsin	0/0
61	Colmer, Chris	OT	6-5	310	2	North Carolina State	0/0
27	Cox, Torrie	CB	5-10	181	5	Pittsburgh	16/3
	Darby, Kenneth	RB	5-10	211	R	Alabama	
69	Davis, Anthony	OT	6-4	322	4	Virginia Tech	16/16
22	Davis, Sammy	CB	6-1	195	5	Texas A&M	13/1
	Denman, Chris	OT	6-7	315	R	Fresno State	
48	Economos, Andrew	LS	6-1	250	2	Georgia Tech	3/0
10	Eugene, Bruce	QB	6-0	283	1	Grambling	0/0
84	Galloway, Joey	WR	5-11	197	13	Ohio State	16/14
7	Garcia, Jeff	QB	6-1	205	9	San Jose State	8/6
28	Gates, Lionel	RB	6-0	223	2	Louisville	0/0
18	Gessner, Chas	WR	6-4	215	1	Brown	0/0
44	Goldsberry, Jon	FB	6-1	246	1	Purdue	0/0
5	Gradkowski, Bruce	QB	6-1	220	2	Toledo	13/11
34	Graham, Earnest	RB	5-9	225	4	Florida	16/0
	Hamilton, Marcus	CB	5-11	188	R	Virginia	
71	Haye, Jovan	DE	6-2	295	3	Vanderbilt	9/0
	Hayward, Adam	LB	6-0	235	R	Portland State	
87	Heinrich, Keith	TE	6-5	250	5	Sam Houston State	0/0
37	Hendricks, Carlos	CB	5-11	190	1	Alabama-Birmingham	0/0
4	Hill, Efreem	WR	6-0	179	1	Samford	0/0
19	Hilliard, Ike	WR	5-11	210	11	Florida	16/0
95	Hovan, Chris	DT	6-2	296	8	Boston College	16/16
	Jackson, Tanard	S	6-0	200	R	Syracuse	
91	Jenkins, Julian	DE	6-3	277	2	Stanford	12/0
89	Jones, Mark	WR	5-9	185	4	Tennessee	7/0
75	Joseph, Davin	OG	6-3	313	2	Oklahoma	13/12
59	June, Cato	LB	6-0	227	5	Michigan	16/16
25	Kelly, Brian	CB	5-11	193	10	USC	2/2
	Lehr, Matt	OG	6-2	304	7	Virginia Tech	11/11
15	Lucas, Chad	WR	6-1	201	1	Alabama State	0/0
12	McCown, Luke	QB	6-3	212	4	Louisiana Tech	0/0
66	Muhlhauser, Nick	C	6-3	305	1	Washington State	0/0
56	Nece, Ryan	LB	6-3	224	6	UCLA	15/11
30	Nicholson, Donte	S	6-1	216	2	Oklahoma	1/0
17	Owens, Chad	WR	5-7	188	2	Hawaii	4/0
39	Pearson, Calvin	S	5-10	190	3	Grambling State	16/0
70	Penn, Donald	OT	6-5	305	2	Utah State	0/0
	Peterson, Greg	DT	6-5	271	R	North Carolina Central	
79	Pettigout, Luke	OT	6-6	308	9	Notre Dame	9/9
23	Phillips, Jermaine	S	6-1	214	6	Georgia	16/16
	Piscitelli, Sabby	S	6-3	225	R	Oregon State	
32	Pittman, Michael	RB	6-0	228	10	Fresno State	16/3
16	Plummer, Jake	QB	6-2	212	11	Arizona State	16/11
97	Rice, Simeon	DE	6-5	268	12	Illinois	8/8
68	Roland, Dennis	OT	6-9	325	1	Georgia	0/0
51	Ruud, Barrett	LB	6-2	241	3	Nebraska	16/5
	Sears, Arron	OG-OT	6-3	319	R	Tennessee	
2	Simms, Chris	QB	6-4	220	5	Texas	3/3
	Sims, Ryan	DT	6-4	315	6	North Carolina	16/0
81	Smith, Alex	TE	6-4	258	3	Stanford	14/7
6	Smith, Kyle	WR	6-0	170	1	Youngstown State	0/0
94	Spikes, Greg	DE	6-1	265	10	Florida State	16/16
	Stevens, Jerramy	TE	6-7	260	6	Washington	11/6
85	Stovall, Maurice	WR	6-5	220	2	Notre Dame	9/2
77	Terry, Jeb	OG	6-5	311	4	North Carolina	10/1
14	Thomas, Levon	WR	6-0	195	1	Georgia Tech	0/0
65	Trueblood, Jeremy	OT	6-8	320	2	Boston College	15/13
76	Wade, John	C	6-5	299	10	Marshall	16/16
82	Warren, Paris	WR	6-0	213	3	Utah	8/0
24	Williams, Cadillac	RB	5-11	217	3	Auburn	14/14
45	Williams, T.J.	TE	6-3	258	2	North Carolina State	0/0
50	Winborn, Jamie	LB	5-11	242	7	Vanderbilt	14/0
96	Wyms, Ellis	DT	6-3	290	7	Mississippi State	13/8
29	Zemaitis, Alan	CB	6-2	202	2	Penn State	0/0



# ATLANTA FALCONS



JEFF FISHER

QB MICHAEL VICK

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **6-10** 4th place /  
NFC South

The downward spiral continued for the Falcons in 2006, as they missed the playoffs for the second straight season and posted their first losing record under head coach Jim Mora.

Owner Arthur Blank, who is among the most image-conscious owners in the NFL, fired Mora one day after the regular season concluded for an accumulation of embarrassing off-the-field antics and for a declining product on the field. Blank replaced Mora with another first-time

NFL head coach in Bobby Petrino, who spent the past four years as the University of Louisville head coach.

Petrino is respected for his sharp offensive mind and for being a strict disciplinarian. He comes aboard at a critical juncture in Falcons history, with franchise QB Michael Vick entering the prime of his career. Petrino will hand Vick more responsibility than ever before, and if Vick succeeds under Petrino's stewardship, the Falcons have enough talent to compete for a division crown. If Vick falters, then the Falcons, a franchise that has never produced back-to-back winning seasons, will be in shambles, looking to

start over once again.

## Offense

New head coach Bobby Petrino plans to overhaul the offense, and he will start with phasing out the zone-blocking scheme that helped propel the rushing offense to the top of the charts the past three seasons. Petrino's offense is a spread attack that employs many three- and four-WR packages and a between-the-tackles rushing attack. Most of the focus will again be on star-crossed QB Michael Vick. Petrino plans to give Vick more responsibility than ever before, allowing him to audible plays at the line of scrimmage. To help Vick, the Falcons added free-agent WR Joe Horn, a sure-handed veteran who they hope can mentor young WRs



Roddy White and Michael Jenkins.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Michael Vick can finally stop looking over his shoulder. The Falcons traded popular backup Matt Schaub in the offseason, further solidifying their commitment to Vick, who is said to have developed a strong rapport with new head coach Bobby Petrino. In addition to cementing Vick's place as the starter, Petrino is also putting Vick in a position to succeed, which was not always the case with former offensive coordinator Greg Knapp, who tried to fit the proverbial square peg (Vick) into a round hole (a timing-based West Coast offense). Petrino's offense calls for more passes downfield, which suits Vick's strong left arm better than the many short, timing passes he was forced to make in Knapp's system. Trading Schaub hurts the Falcons' QB depth, but the backups have not seen much action in recent years with Vick finally staying healthy. After missing 20 games in his first three seasons because of injuries, Vick has only missed two games in the past three years. He still tucks the ball and runs more than any quarterback in the league — in '06, he became the first signalcaller to rush for more than 1,000 yards in a season — but he is running smarter and avoiding the big hits that hurt him early in his career. The Falcons signed free agent Joey Harrington to replace Schaub. Harrington, the No. 3 overall pick in '02, started 11 games for the Dolphins last season but remained as inconsistent a passer as he was in Detroit. Scouts say Harrington is best-suited for a backup role and could succeed in spot duty. D.J. Shockley saw no game action as a rookie and is still considered a long-term developmental prospect.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Warrick Dunn is the rare running back who has improved late in his NFL career. Since turning 30 — the age when many pro running backs tend to break down — Dunn has produced back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons. Including his 1,106-yard campaign at age 29, Dunn has rushed for more than 1,000 yards in three straight seasons for the first time in his career. Bobby Petrino plans to carve out a meaty role in his offense for Dunn, who scouts say is still a dynamic runner, even though Petrino's offense is designed for a bruising, between-the-tackles back in the featured role. Backup Jerious Norwood is among the fastest, if not the fastest, running backs in the NFL. With his elite speed, Norwood is a threat to go the distance every time he touches the ball, scoring touchdowns on runs of 78 and 69 yards as a rookie.

Norwood does not hesitate and hits holes at full speed. He is not elusive, but he is not afraid to lower his pads and punish defenders. The Falcons replaced athletic FB Justin Griffith with free agent Ovie Mughelli. A true thumper, Mughelli is an explosive lead blocker who can help compensate for the Falcons' smallish offensive line. Mughelli also has soft hands and is an excellent receiver out of the backfield, scoring two

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **MICHAEL VICK**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
CB **DeANGELO HALL**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
LB **MICHAEL BOLEY**

Boley showed off his play-making ability last season and appears poised to challenge Hall to become the face of the defense.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
SS:  
**LAWYER MILLOY vs. CHRIS CROCKER**

Milloy is in the twilight of his career but remains effective against the run. Crocker is moving from his starting FS spot because he struggles in pass coverage.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

DT Anthony Bryant, PK Aaron Elling, OG Toniu Fonoti, WR Joe Horn, FB Ovie Mughelli, CB Lewis Sanders, LB Marcus Wilkins.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

FB Justin Griffith, LB Ed Hartwell, DE Patrick Kerney, OG Matt Lehr, WR Ashley Lelle, LB Ike Reese, QB Matt Schaub.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Jamaal Anderson	DE	Arkansas	8
2	Justin Blalock	OG	Texas	39
2	Chris Houston	CB	Arkansas	41
3	Laurent Robinson	WR	Illinois State	75
4	Stephen Nicholas	OLB	South Florida	109
4	Martez Milner	TE	Georgia	133
6	Trey Lewis	DT	Washburn (Kan.)	185
6	David Irons	CB	Auburn	194
6	Doug Datish	C	Ohio State	198
6	Daren Stone	SS	Maine	203
7	Jason Snelling	RB-FB	Virginia	244



TDs last season through the air.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Former first-round picks Michael Jenkins and Roddy White are beginning to look more like busts than budding stars. Scouts say Jenkins and White are both very gifted players, but they are not getting the ball enough, which is delaying their development. The Falcons are counting on the addition of two veteran receivers to help get Jenkins and White back on track. Joe Horn signed with Atlanta after being released by the Saints. Horn has struggled with injuries in the past two seasons, missing 11 games (including the playoffs). Scouts say the 35-year-old Horn does not have the deep speed he once did, is not as elusive and is looking to get down or out of bounds after the catch. A vocal leader capable of mentoring younger players, he

remains a solid route runner with good acceleration and sure hands. Brian Finneran missed all of last season after suffering a torn anterior cruciate ligament in training camp. Finneran is a reliable possession receiver and crisp route runner. TE Alge Crumpler, who had knee surgery in the spring, is Vick's most trusted target. Scouts say Crumpler remains one of the top tight ends in the league and expect him to return to an elite level this season.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ This shapes up to be a transition year for the offensive line. Bobby Petrino plans to scrap the zone-blocking scheme that Atlanta has run so effectively the past few seasons, which should lead to an eventual overhaul in personnel. The right side of the line looks like it will stay intact with ORT Todd Weiner, ORG Kynan Forney and C Todd McClure signing long-term contracts in the last two years. Scouts say Forney should excel in Petrino's power-running offense because he is the strongest and most physical lineman on the roster. Weiner has quick feet and is capable of protecting Michael Vick's blind side, but McClure might be too small for Petrino's system. OLT Wayne Gandy is still playing at a high level entering his 14th season and, having played in many different offenses in his career, should be able to make a smooth transition. Second-round pick Justin Blalock is expected to compete for the starting OLG job. Blalock (6-3, 320 pounds) adds bulk to the Falcons' undersized line. He started 51 consecutive games at Texas and had the highest score on the Wonderlic test at the Combine. Tyson Clabo and P.J. Alexander both made their first career starts last season after a couple years riding the bench, and they could push Blalock for playing time. Toniu Fonoti adds depth and experience inside.

## Defense

New defensive coordinator Mike Zimmer comes from Dallas, where he supervised a 3-4 defense under head coach Bill Parcells. Zimmer has always preferred a 4-3 scheme and plans to stick to it in Atlanta. The Falcons improved against the run last season, moving into the top 10 in the rankings despite several injuries. The defense took a hit when Patrick Kerney signed with Seattle, but the line remains solid with Pro Bowl talents such as John Abraham and Rod Coleman. Speed is the name of the game at linebacker with Keith Brooking and budding star Michael Boley, but the secondary is still a weakness despite the presence of Pro Bowl CB DeAngelo Hall.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ When healthy, DE John Abraham is an elite pass rusher. But avoiding the injury bug has been tough for Abraham, who has missed 21 games because of injuries in the past four years. The Falcons will miss DE Patrick Kerney's leadership and experience. First-round pick Jamaal Anderson is expected to replace Kerney in the starting lineup. Anderson adds size to Atlanta's line and should help the pass rush with his speed, but he struggled stopping the



run in college. Chauncey Davis, who has started 19 games in two NFL seasons, could push Anderson for playing time. Davis is better vs. the run than vs. the pass, and he does not have ideal height or speed for a pass rusher. DT Rod Coleman was hampered by a turf toe injury for most of last season, and suffered a ruptured right quadriceps in April, which will likely keep him out of action through training camp. When healthy, he is still disruptive and an elite interior pass rusher. Jonathan Babineaux will see extended action during Coleman's absence. DT

Grady Jackson has struggled with his weight his entire career, and last season was no different. Jackson tends to wear down fast because he is carrying so many extra pounds, and he takes too many plays off. Backup DT Darrell Shropshire continues to plummet down the depth chart and has fallen behind T.J. Jackson, an undrafted rookie in 2006.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Keith Brooking is more natural — and has publicly stated he is most comfortable — playing weak-side linebacker, but he will be moved to the middle after Ed Hartwell was released in the offseason. Scouts say Brooking is the best linebacker on the roster no matter where he lines up on the field. SLB Michael Boley is athletic with a good speed burst and good zone awareness. Evaluators call him one of the most underrated linebackers in the NFL. Boley can even play with his hand down and be an effective pass rusher from

the DE spot on occasion. Speedy Demorrio Williams is slated to take over Brookings' WLB spot, but he suffered a torn pectoral muscle in April that required surgery and could keep him out of training camp. Fourth-round pick Stephen Nicholas will fill in for Williams at the WLB spot until he is ready to go. Jordan Beck could be moved to the middle if Brookings is switched back to the weak side.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Pro Bowl CB DeAngelo headlines this group. He has all the physical tools — size, speed and toughness — to develop into the top cornerback in the league, but he is too susceptible to double moves. Jimmy Williams, the Falcons' top pick last year, floated between corner and free safety, and the team still has not committed to where he will line up in 2007. Williams has excellent size for a cornerback and the speed and quick feet to forge a long career there. Some scouts suggest Williams is not tough enough to play safety. Second-round pick Chris Houston should push Williams for playing time at cornerback. Houston is strong at the line of scrimmage and in man coverage and has good speed, but he does get beat deep. At this point in his career, 33-year-old Lawyer Milloy is an in-the-box safety. He is physical in run support, but he no longer has the speed or range to succeed in coverage. Chris Crocker has elite speed and range, but scouts question his instincts. He missed too many tackles last season and

could be moved to the SS spot to back up Milloy.

## Special teams

The Falcons gave Michael Koenen the chance to tackle all three kicking jobs — punting, kicking off and placekicking — in training camp, but his placekicking suffered. The Falcons replaced the young Koenen with ageless wonder Morten Andersen. The 46-year-old Andersen is accurate from 40 yards and in, but his leg strength has tapered off. Koenen has a bright future as a punter and handling kickoffs, though the Falcons have not ruled out giving Koenen another chance to complete the trifecta. A more likely scenario has the Falcons developing a young placekicker while keeping Andersen on speed dial. RS Allen Rossum rebounded last season after a forgettable 2005 campaign and showed there still is some life in his legs.

## Summary

Even with a new head coach on board, the Falcons remain Michael Vick's team. The team's success or failure almost exclusively rides on his shoulders. Vick figures to get more freedom than ever in Bobby Petrino's spread attack, but how he handles that responsibility will determine Atlanta's fate. Can Vick finally get in sync with his young receivers? Will the revamped offensive line protect him? Can he stay healthy again? Vick has always gravitated to the spotlight, and this season that light will be shining brighter than ever before.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
Score	20-6	14-3	3-23	32-10	14-27	41-38	29-27	14-30	13-17	10-24	13-31	24-14	17-6	28-38	3-10	17-24		
Total net yards	395	382	229	405	329	399	420	319	343	186	333	369	280	376	177	378		5310
Rushing yards	252	306	117	262	223	173	143	165	149	104	281	256	139	127	83	159		2939
Passing yards	133	76	112	143	106	226	277	154	194	82	52	113	141	249	94	219		2371
Rushing plays	47	44	23	40	26	39	38	28	29	25	45	41	34	27	19	34		537
Sacks allowed	1	3	5	2	7	1	2	2	1	5	3	1	2	4	3	5		47
Had intercepted	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	2	2	1		15
Fumbles lost	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0		5
Yards penalized	20	83	43	40	40	40	75	76	76	47	65	60	10	68	35	99		877
Punts	4	2	7	2	6	5	3	6	8	6	6	5	4	4	5	5		78

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

Time of poss.***	23:32	25:51	32:40	28:34	34:18	27:41	22:52	32:56	31:38	36:43	25:41	31:38	29:31	33:21	41:47	24:42		30:13
Total net yards	215	351	326	187	424	473	331	435	236	328	427	381	272	352	194	393		5325
Rushing yards	65	40	146	26	259	55	73	127	91	103	95	177	80	94	183	43		1657
Passing yards	150	311	180	161	165	418	258	308	145	225	332	204	192	258	11	350		3668
Rushing plays	16	16	34	24	38	26	18	27	27	31	25	35	29	27	52	17		442
Sacks allowed	4	1	1	4	2	3	2	3	5	2	2	2	1	1	3	0		37
Had intercepted	1	3	0	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0		12
Fumbles lost	1	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	1		14
Yards penalized	45	99	40	19	45	65	30	71	52	56	35	30	10	32	62	108		799
Punts	6	4	6	5	4	3	4	2	10	4	6	5	4	3	6	5		77

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

#### RUSHING

Dunn	29-132-0	21-134-0	13-44-0	19-55-0	14-146-1	26-69-1	20-57-0	11-51-1	21-73-0	15-52-0	19-52-1	21-87-0	11-45-0	18-56-0	9-29-0	19-58-0	286-1140-4
Griffith	1-6-0		3-16-0								1-9-0	1-3-0	12-57-1	1-15-0			19-106-1
M. Jackson									1-2-0								1-2-0
Jenkins															1-2-0		1-2-0
Norwood	10-66-0	9-45-0	1-0-0	6-106-1	4-9-0	8-64-0	9-31-0	5-34-0		3-2-0	13-54-0	9-107-1	7-32-0		5-20-0	10-63-0	99-633-2
Schaub				4-0-0									1-0-0			2-21-0	7-21-0
Vick	7-48-0	14-127-1	6-57-0	11-101-0	8-68-1	5-40-0	9-55-0	10-80-0	7-74-0	6-54-0	12-166-0	10-59-0	3-5-0	8-56-0	4-32-0	3-17-0	123-1039-2

#### PASSING \*\*

Schaub								0-1-0						3-5-1		15-21-1	18-27-2
								0-0						33-0		175-1	208-1
Vick	10-22-0	10-15-1	12-31-0	13-22-1	14-27-1	18-30-2	19-27-0	17-32-2	16-40-2	11-21-0	9-24-0	8-16-0	14-23-1	16-24-1	9-20-2	8-14-0	204-388-13
	140-2	92-1	137-0	153-0	154-0	232-4	291-3	163-1	197-1	127-1	84-0	122-2	155-0	237-4	109-0	81-1	2474-20

#### RECEIVING

Blakley								3-25-0					1-14-0			2-37-0	6-76-0
Crumpler	3-27-1	1-22-0	5-49-0	2-30-0	5-66-0	6-117-3	4-72-1	4-47-1	4-37-0	2-16-0	1-43-0	2-62-1	3-30-0	5-59-0	3-39-0	6-64-1	56-780-8
Dunn	1-10-0		2-2-0	1-10-0				2-16-0	3-20-0	4-35-0	1-5-0		2-27-0	2-19-0	1-9-0	3-17-1	22-170-1
Griffith	1-16-0		2-15-0	1-(-2)-0	2-22-0	2-16-0	2-14-1	1-5-0			4-34-0	2-7-0		1-8-0	4-34-2	1-(-1)-0	23-168-3
Jenkins	3-77-1	2-14-0	2-23-0	3-28-0	3-30-0	2-25-1	3-53-1	3-26-0	2-17-1	3-23-1	2-6-0	4-43-1	1-6-0	3-37-1	1-9-0	2-19-0	39-436-7
Lelie	1-5-0	3-22-0	1-48-0	2-61-0	1-14-0	4-58-0	3-55-0	2-35-0	1-9-0			2-17-0	3-49-0	2-17-1	3-40-0		28-430-1
McCrary		1-4-1														1-2-0	3-13-1
Norwood		1-12-0			1-2-0	1-5-0	2-39-0	1-5-0				2-7-0		1-4-0		3-28-0	12-102-0
White	1-5-0	1-18-0		4-26-0	2-20-0	2-10-0	3-42-0		5-99-0	1-49-0	1-14-0		2-17-0	3-104-0	1-12-0	4-90-0	30-506-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Atlanta Falcons

4400 Falcon Parkway  
Flower Branch, GA 30542  
770/965-3115  
Official Website: www.atlantafalcons.com  
Stadium: Georgia Dome  
Capacity: 71,149  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 7-9; Third in NFC South

**Owner and CEO:** Arthur Blank; **President and general manager:** Rich McKay; **Senior personnel executive:** Billy Devaney; **Director of pro personnel:** Les Snead; **Director of college scouting:** Phil Emery

**Head coach:** Bobby Petrino

**Assistant coaches:** Jonathan Gannon, *defensive assistant/quality control*; Hue Jackson, *offensive coordinator*; Billy Johnson, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Evan Marcus, *head strength and conditioning*; Tom McMahon, *asst. special teams*; Bill Musgrave, *quarterbacks*; Derrick Nix, *offensive assistant/quality control*; Paul Petrino, *wide receivers*; Dave Puloka, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Jerry Rosburg, *special-teams coordinator*; Keith Rowen, *tight ends*; Andy Sugarman, *offensive assistant*; Mike Summers, *offensive line*; Emmitt Thomas, *defensive backs*; Brian VanGorder, *linebackers*; Joe Whitt Jr., *asst. defensive backs*; Ollie Wilson, *running backs*; Kevin Wolthausen, *defensive line*; Mike Zimmer, *defensive coordinator*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

WR	87 HORN	84 White	Robinson*	
OLT	72 GANDY	70 Omiyale		
OLG	BLALOCK*	68 Fonoti	77 Clabo	
C	62 McCLORE	67 Ferentz	Datish*	
ORG	65 FORNEY	77 Clabo	64 Alexander	
ORT	74 WEINER	76 Ojinnaka		
TE	83 CRUMPLER	80 Beverly	85 Blakely	Milner*
WR	12 JENKINS	86 Finneran	81 Jennings	
QB	7 VICK	13 Harrington	3 Shockley	8 Redman
RB	28 DUNN	32 Norwood	42 Robertson	Snelling*
FB	34 MUGHELLI	38 McIntyre		

### DEFENSE

DLE <b>ANDERSON*</b>	92 Davis	94 Mallard	
NT <b>90 G. JACKSON</b>	99 T. Jackson	71 Shropshire	Lewis*
UT <b>75 COLEMAN</b>	95 Babineaux	71 Shropshire	
DRE <b>55 ABRAHAM</b>	91 Carrington	94 Mallard	
BLB <b>59 BOLEY</b>	53 Leake		
MLB <b>56 BROOKING</b>	52 Beck		
WLB <b>51 D. WILLIAMS</b>	Nicholas*	50 Wilkins	
LCB <b>21 HALL</b>	27 Webster	Irons*	29 Sanders
RCB <b>24 J. WILLIAMS</b>	Houston*	20 Rossum	26 Lowe
SS <b>36 MILLOY</b>	25 Crocker		
FS <b>25 CROCKER</b>	41 Reed	Stone*	

### SPECIALISTS

P <b>9 KOENEN</b>			
PK <b>2 ELLING</b>	9 Koenen		
H <b>9 KOENEN</b>			
PR <b>20 ROSSUM</b>	81 Jennings	21 Hall	
KR <b>20 ROSSUM</b>	81 Jennings	32 Norwood	
LS <b>47 STUTZ</b>	83 Crumpler		

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	at Minnesota	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Jacksonville	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	Carolina	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 30	Houston	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	at Tennessee	1 p.m.
Oct. 15	N.Y. Giants	8:30 p.m.
Oct. 21	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	BYE	
Nov. 4	San Francisco	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Nov. 22	Indianapolis	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 2	at St. Louis	1 p.m.
Dec. 10	New Orleans	8:30 p.m.
Dec. 16	at Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	at Arizona	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 30	Seattle	1 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Atlanta

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Carolina	(+4)	20-6
Sept. 17	Tampa Bay	(-4)	14-3
Sept. 25	At New Orleans	(-4)	3-23
Oct. 1	Arizona	(-7.5)	32-10
Oct. 8	BYE		
Oct. 15	New York Giants	(-3)	14-27
Oct. 22	Pittsburgh	(+3)	41-38*
Oct. 29	At Cincinnati	(+4)	29-27
Nov. 5	At Detroit	(-5)	14-30
Nov. 12	Cleveland	(-8)	13-17
Nov. 19	At Baltimore	(+3.5)	10-24
Nov. 26	New Orleans	(-3)	13-31
Dec. 3	At Washington	(+1.5)	24-14
Dec. 10	At Tampa Bay	(-3.5)	17-6
Dec. 16	Dallas	(+4)	28-38
Dec. 24	Carolina	(-6)	3-10
Dec. 31	At Philadelphia	(+7)	17-24

\* OVERTIME

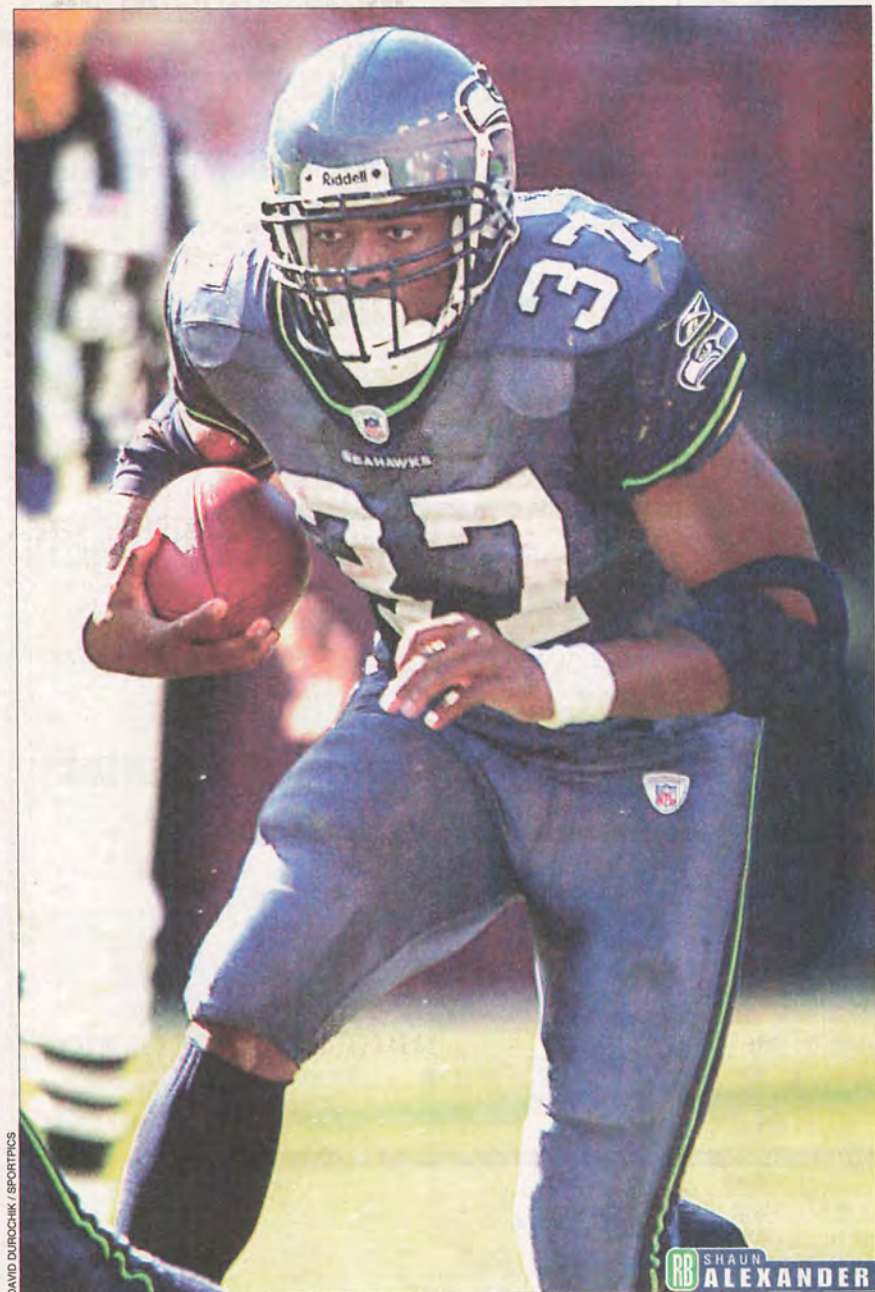
## FALCONS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
55	Abraham, John	DE	6-4	258	8	South Carolina	8/7
64	Alexander, P.J.	OG	6-4	297	5	Syracuse	4/4
	Anderson, Jamaal	DE	6-5	288	R	Arkansas	
95	Babineaux, Jonathan	DT	6-2	286	3	Iowa	16/1
52	Beck, Jordan	LB	6-2	233	3	Cal Poly	15/0
80	Beverly, Eric	TE	6-3	300	11	Miami (Ohio)	16/2
85	Blakely, Dwayne	TE	6-4	257	4	Missouri	16/4
	Blalock, Justin	OG-OT	6-3	320	R	Texas	
59	Boley, Michael	LB	6-3	236	3	Southern Mississippi	16/13
96	Bozeman, Michael	DT	6-2	290	1	Mississippi	0/0
56	Brooking, Keith	LB	6-2	245	10	Georgia Tech	16/16
97	Bryant, Anthony	DT	6-3	337	2	Alabama	4/4
	Burchette, Noland	DL	6-2	263	R	Virginia Tech	
91	Carrington, Paul	DE	6-7	280	2	Central Florida	15/2
77	Clabo, Tyson	OG	6-6	314	3	Wake Forest	10/10
69	Claxton, Ben	OG	6-2	301	3	Mississippi	0/0
93	Clemons, Nic	DE	6-6	298	2	Georgia	0/0
75	Coleman, Rod	DT	6-2	285	9	East Carolina	15/15
25	Crocker, Chris	S	5-11	192	5	Marshall	16/16
83	Crumpler, Alge	TE	6-2	262	7	North Carolina	16/16
	Datish, Doug	C	6-4	302	R	Ohio State	
92	Davis, Chauncey	DE	6-2	272	3	Florida State	16/14
28	Dunn, Warrick	RB	5-9	180	11	Florida State	16/16
2	Elling, Aaron	PK	6-2	201	4	Wyoming	0/0
18	Elliott, Jamin	WR	5-11	195	2	Delaware	1/0
	Ely-Kelso, Gordon	P	6-0	238	R	Georgia	
89	Fells, Daniel	TE	6-4	252	2	California-Davis	0/0
67	Ferentz, Brian	C	6-3	282	1	Iowa	0/0
86	Finneran, Brian	WR	6-5	210	9	Villanova	0/0
68	Fonoti, Toniui	OG	6-4	350	6	Nebraska	6/0
65	Forney, Kynan	OG	6-3	307	7	Hawaii	7/7
	Foster, Renardo	OT	6-7	325	R	Louisville	
72	Gandy, Wayne	OT	6-4	315	14	Auburn	16/16
82	Gibson, Fred	WR	6-4	202	1	Georgia	0/0
43	Grimes, Brent	CB	5-10	180	1	Shippensburg	0/0
21	Hall, DeAngelo	CB	5-10	197	4	Virginia Tech	16/16
15	Hamilton, Derrick	WR	6-4	207	3	Clemson	0/0
13	Harrington, Joey	QB	6-4	220	6	Oregon	11/11
39	Harris, Antoine	CB	5-10	240	1	Louisville	0/0
22	Henderson, Taurean	RB	5-10	210	1	Texas Tech	0/0
35	Hobbs, Kevin	CB	6-0	195	1	Auburn	0/0
87	Horn, Joe	WR	6-1	213	12	Itawamba (Miss.) J.C.	10/9
	Houston, Chris	CB	5-9	185	R	Arkansas	
	Irons, David	CB	5-10	190	R	Auburn	
90	Jackson, Grady	DT	6-2	345	11	Knoxville	16/15
99	Jackson, Tommy	DT	6-1	311	2	Auburn	5/0
12	Jenkins, Michael	WR	6-4	217	4	Ohio State	16/16
81	Jennings, Adam	WR	5-9	181	2	Fresno State	15/0
37	Johnson, Derrick	CB	5-10	186	3	Washington	2/0
	Johnson, Jermaine	S	5-10	209	R	Mississippi State	
9	Koenen, Michael	P	5-11	195	3	Western Washington	16/0
66	Lacy, Bo	OT	6-4	294	1	Arkansas	0/0
53	Leake, John	LB	6-0	241	3	Clemson	14/0
	Lewis, Trey	DT	6-3	318	R	Washburn	
26	Lowe, Omare	CB	6-1	195	6	Washington	16/0
94	Mallard, Josh	DE	6-2	259	3	Georgia	14/1
	Marshall, Vincent	WR	5-7	165	R	Houston	
62	McCure, Todd	C	6-1	286	9	LSU	16/16
38	McIntyre, Corey	FB	6-0	244	3	West Virginia	0/0
36	Milloy, Lawyer	S	6-0	190	12	Washington	16/16
	Milner, Martrez	TE	6-3	252	R	Georgia	
34	Mughelli, Ovie	FB	6-1	255	5	Wake Forest	16/7
	Newman, Eric	WR	5-11	195	R	Louisiana Tech	
	Nicholas, Stephen	LB	6-1	232	R	South Florida	
32	Norwood, Jerious	RB	6-0	203	2	Mississippi State	14/0
76	Ojinnaka, Quinn	OT	6-5	295	2	Syracuse	11/0
70	Omiyale, Frank	OT	6-4	310	3	Tennessee Tech	1/0
63	Palermo, Jason	OL	6-3	307	1	Wisconsin	0/0
	Patterson, David	DL	6-1	274	R	Ohio State	
	Quarterman, Kurt	OL	6-5	328	R	Louisville	
8	Redman, Chris	QB	6-3	223	4	Louisville	0/0
41	Reed, J.R.	S	5-11	202	4	South Florida	0/0
46	Riddle, Ryan	LB	6-2	260	3	California	5/0
42	Robertson, Jamal	RB	5-10	215	5	Ohio Northern	1/0
	Robinson, Laurent	WR	6-2	199	R	Illinois State	
20	Rossum, Allen	CB-RS	5-8	187	10	Notre Dame	16/16
29	Sanders, Lewis	CB	6-1	210	8	Maryland	9/7
16	Sheldon, Dan	WR	5-11	173	1	Northern Illinois	0/0
3	Shockley, D.J.	QB	6-1	214	2	Georgia	0/0
71	Shropshire, Darrell	DT	6-2	301	3	South Carolina	13/1
	Snelling, Jason	RB	5-11	233	R	Virginia	
	Stone, Daren	S	6-3	218	R	Maine	
47	Stutz, Boone	LS	6-6	256	2	Texas A&M	16/0
	Talavou, Kelly	DL	6-1	329	R	Utah	
	Taylor, Tony	LB	6-0	236	R	Georgia	
7	Vick, Michael	QB	6-0	215	7	Virginia Tech	16/16
	Vincent, Justin	RB	5-10	219	R	LSU	
40	Wallace, Butchie	RB	5-10	205	2	Marshall	0/0
27	Webster, Jason	CB	5-9	187	8	Texas A&M	8/7
	Weems, Eric	WR	5-8	182	R	Bethune-Cookman	
74	Weiner, Todd	OT	6-4	297	10	Kansas State	16/16
	West, Ryan	LS	6-0	262	R	Tennessee	
84	White, Roddy	WR	6-0	208	3	Alabama-Birmingham	16/5
50	Wilkins, Marcus	LB	6-2	231	6	Texas	16/0
51	Williams, Demorrio	LB	6-0	232	4	Nebraska	16/10
24	Williams, Jimmy	CB	6-2	216	2	Virginia Tech	13/5
54	Williams, Travis	LB	6-1	213	1	Auburn	0/0



SEATTLE

## SEAHAWKS



DAVID DUDCHIK / SPORTPICS

RB SHAUN ALEXANDER

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **10-6** 1st place /  
NFC West

Although they didn't suffer from the same kind of nasty hangover that afflicted six of the previous seven Super Bowl losers, winning their third straight division title and earning their fourth straight playoff berth, the Seahawks still struggled on both sides of the ball in

2006, finishing a mediocre 19th in both total offense and total defense.

Injuries were a major problem, with 12 starters missing a combined 52 games, counting the playoffs. QB Matt Hasselbeck was out of sorts all

season with a variety of ailments, and reigning league MVP Shaun Alexander's six-game absence due to a fractured left foot robbed the offense of its precious balance.

The defense, meanwhile, gave up too many big plays, especially via the airways (28 plays of 30-plus yards).

## Offense

The offense's normally fast-paced rhythm sputtered from beginning to end in '06. The unit's major weapons were never on the field at the same time together, and eight different combinations started on the offensive line.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Matt Hasselbeck suf-

fered through his worst season since his first as a starter in 2001, completing only 56.6 percent of his passes, his lowest rate in five years. He also threw 18 interceptions in 14 games (including the playoffs), compared to only nine in 16 regular-season games in '06. In addition to missing four games with an injury to his right knee, Hasselbeck also broke two fingers on his left hand and was forced to deal with nagging injuries to his ribs and non-throwing shoulder, which was operated on in mid-January. While injuries no doubt took their toll, Hasselbeck also might have been overloaded mentally, being forced to assume on-field adjustments previously handled by other veteran players, such as departed Pro Bowl OLG Steve Hutchinson and C Robbie



Toback, who missed the last half of the season with various ailments. The good news is Hasselbeck is well ahead of the initial recovery schedule for his shoulder and should be fully recovered well in advance of training camp. Backup Seneca Wallace's poise and game management were surprisingly effective while registering a 2-2 record in place of Hasselbeck last season.

His athleticism and mobility offer an extra dimension, and he has a major-league arm. But Wallace was so determined to prove he could make plays in the pocket, he probably didn't take as much advantage of his legs as he should have.

**RUNNING BACKS** • Coming off an outstanding, record-breaking season, Shaun Alexander looked very tentative much of the '06 campaign, with his lingering foot injury and a suddenly shaky blocking situation on the left side of the offensive line without Steve Hutchinson no doubt contributing to his career-low 3.6 yards per carry. But he appeared to regain his MVP-caliber form toward the end of last season, finishing the year off with a strong two-TD, 108-yard rushing performance in Seattle's playoff loss to the Bears. Maurice Morris had his moments in six starts in place of Alexander, including a pair of 100-yard performances. He offers a good change of pace, with more speed and a quicker burst than Alexander. Veteran FB Mack Strong suffered a noticeable dropoff last season. Hindered by an ankle injury that limited his ability to plant, he frequently whiffed on blitz pickups, and he dropped too many passes when his number was called out of the backfield. Promising Leonard Weaver and Josh Parry, acquired in a trade with the Eagles in '06, could see more playing time.

**RECEIVERS** • The Seahawks were satisfied enough with their deep, talented receiver corps to sacrifice flanker Darrell Jackson, who they traded to division-rival San Francisco for a fourth-round pick. Jackson was a very productive receiver when healthy, leading the club in catches four of the past six years. With Jackson gone, the Seahawks will be expecting a lot more this season from '06 trade addition Deion Branch, who had only one 100-yard performance in a Seattle uniform last year. Branch has admitted that he needs another season to become fully immersed in Seattle's offense. Just when it appeared he and Matt Hasselbeck were starting to click in '06, Hasselbeck was injured. On the upside, Branch's impact in the locker room exceeded expectations, and he was always one of the last players off the practice field. After missing nine games with a thyroid condition that forced him to lose 10 pounds while having to undergo multiple tests and take different medications, veteran Bobby Engram re-emerged as the stabilizer in Seattle's passing game in the playoffs. With his knack for playing bigger than his size and catching the ball in traffic, Engram remains the team's most productive slot receiver in three- and four-

**PFW PROJECTIONS**



**WR**  
**DEION BRANCH**  
**DEFENSIVE MVP**



**OLB**  
**JULIAN PETERSON**  
**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**CB** **MARCUS TRUFANT**

He is already a very solid player, but the team thinks new secondary coach Jim Mora can move Trufant up to DeAngelo Hall's level.

**POSITION BATTLE**

**SS:**  
**OPEN COMPETITION**

Free-agent addition Brian Russell, fourth-year pro Michael Boulware and ex-Bear Mike Green, who was hurt all of last season, will be engaged in what figures to be a spirited battle.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

DT Russell Davis, S Deon Grant, DE Brandon Green, DE Patrick Kerney, TE Marcus Pollard, S Brian Russell.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

S Ken Hamlin, WR Darrell Jackson, TE Jeremy Stevens, C Robbie Tobeck, DE Grant Wistrom.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
2	Josh Wilson	CB	Maryland	55
3	Brandon Mebane	DE	California	85
4	Baraka Atkins	DT	Miami (Fla.)	120
4	Mansfield Wrotto	OG	Georgia Tech	124
5	Will Herring	OLB	Auburn	161
6	Courtney Taylor	WR	Auburn	197
6	Jordan Kent	WR	Oregon	210
7	Steve Vallos	OT	Wake Forest	232



WR sets. Taking advantage of injuries to Jackson and Engram, D.J. Hackett emerged as a very dependable target. Big, strong and extremely determined with decent downfield speed, Hackett excelled in making clutch catches and can be expected to be on the field a lot more with Jackson having moved on. Nate Burleson had a tough time in his first year as a Seahawk in '06, dropping numerous passes that he tried to catch in his arms and chest instead of his hands. At tight end, free-agent addition Marcus Pollard is getting up in years, but he is a durable veteran with soft hands who does a textbook job of using his body to shield defenders. Will Heller, who was re-signed in the offseason, is primarily a blocker.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** • Perennial Pro Bowl OLT Walter Jones was the only starter to play every game in '06, despite being banged up with various ailments much of

the season and not being able to take any medication due to a pre-existing medical condition. Operating at less than full strength and forced to compensate for the weaknesses on the interior line with Pro Bowler Steve Hutchinson no longer playing alongside him, Jones allowed more sacks than he did over the previous two or three years combined. But his game was still close to its usual Grade-A level, with his staggering drive blocks and amazingly quick footwork getting the job done more often than not. OLT Sean Locklear continued to perform solidly when healthy, but he missed four games with an ankle injury and another game due to a league-mandated suspension. Rob Sims, a fourth-round draft pick last season, entered training camp as a long-term project. But by season's end, he was showing enough toughness, intelligence and athleticism to become a potential fixture at left guard. At right guard, veteran Chris Gray, who is known for his preparation and study habits, is once again the top candidate to start. Floyd "Pork Chop" Womack, who has started 32 games at four different positions in the past five years but also has missed 23 games with a variety of injuries, could push Gray. As was the case with Sims, former No. 1 pick Chris Spencer was forced to learn the center position on the fly with Robbie Tobeck out. But Spencer added a whole new level of physicality and is considered an ascending player with Pro Bowl potential. Versatile ex-Patriot Tom Ashworth and fourth-round OG Mansfield Wrotto add quality depth.

## Defense

The team hopes new secondary coach Jim Mora and a pair of new safeties, Deon Grant and Brian Russell, will upgrade a secondary that repeatedly allowed big plays, most often due to missed assignments by players who were out of position. An improved pass rush — the team had only seven sacks in the final seven regular-season games — and better defense on first down are also on this year's wish list.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** • Free-agent addition Patrick Kerney is projected to start at left end, where he played the past eight years for the Falcons. Kerney is a fiery, relentless, high-motor edge rusher who also provides great locker-room intangibles with his energy and leadership ability. At right end, Darryl Tapp, the team's No. 2 pick in '06, appears to have a slight edge over Bryce Fisher, last year's starter on the left side. The undersized Tapp showed that he could rush the passer in his rookie season but needs to learn how to play the run better and improve his technique and leverage against bigger tackles and tight ends. Fisher looked very worn down last season after playing more snaps than any lineman and could be better-served sharing time. Standing only 6-feet tall, DT Chuck Darby is among the smallest interior defensive linemen in the league, but he compensates with terrific instincts, leverage and



work ethic. When healthy, DT Rocky Bernard is one of the league's top interior pass rushers, but he was hindered by an injury to his right foot in '06, and his numbers went way down after registering a career-high 8½ sacks the previous season. When healthy, DT Marcus Tubbs provides a massive, athletic presence against the run with his ability to push the pocket and attract double-team blocks. But after playing only five games last season and undergoing delicate microfracture surgery on his left knee, his status is cause for concern. Ex-Cardinal Russell Davis, a 306-pound roadblock, overachiever Craig Terrill and short but stout third-round pick Brandon Mebane add solid depth inside. Ex-Ram Brandon Green figures to be the No. 4 end.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Free-agent addition Julian Peterson was the most consistent player in an inconsistent defense, bolstering an already-strong LB corps with a career-high 10 sacks while excelling in a variety of roles. The team's defensive coaches plan to utilize his 4.4 speed and playmaking ability in even more creative ways this season. In the middle, undersized but dynamic Lofa Tatupu is the front seven's nerve center with his great leadership skills and solid tackling ability. Tatupu became the first player in Mike Holmgren's tenure to start in the middle in consecutive seasons. OLB Leroy Hill, a big hitter and sure tackler, rounds out a quality starting LB corps. Kevin Bentley is the top reserve.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ RCB Marcus Trufant

was playing particularly well last season before suffering a season-ending high ankle sprain in the regular-season finale. The former first-round pick has good but not great speed and is more workmanlike than flashy with excellent body control. The top candidate for the starting job at left corner is Kelly Jennings, last year's No. 1 pick. Athletic and instinctive but undersized, Jennings is very technically sound and can keep up with anybody. He will receive competition from Kelly Herndon, who started off last season playing at a high level but ended it struggling to stop long plays before breaking his left ankle in the regular-season finale. Ex-Jaguar Deon Grant takes over for the departed Ken Hamlin at free safety.

Grant, who hasn't missed a game in six seasons, excelled in directing traffic for the Jaguars' No. 2-ranked defense. He is considered better in coverage than against the run and isn't much of a force in the box. At strong safety, free-agent addition Brian Russell is expected to get a good opportunity to replace Michael Boulware, who lost the starting job to Jordan Babineaux for eight games. Boulware could return to the role he so ably filled in the nickel defense as a rookie, when he made a number of key plays. Russell's strengths are his recognition skills and tackling ability — two areas last year's safety corps had all kinds of problems handling. Mike Green, a free-agent addition last year who sat out the season with a severe foot injury, could also compete for the starting SS job. Babineaux

is a valuable reserve with a knack for making impact plays. He will likely compete for the nickel CB role along with Herndon and second-round pick Josh Wilson, an extremely competitive speed merchant who the team views as an eventual starter.

## Special teams

Seattle's top offseason priority was to assure the return of PK Josh Brown, who received a franchise tag after tying a league record with four game-winning field goals in the final minute of regulation. Brown has a cannon for a leg (eight field goals from 50 yards or beyond the last two seasons) and is a devoted student of his craft with tremendous athleticism for a kicker. P Ryan Plackemeier struggled with his consistency as a rookie early last season but improved dramatically as the season wore on. Nate Burleson might have struggled as a receiver, but he was a revelation as a return specialist, instantly establishing himself as a consistent home-run threat. Rookie Josh Wilson is also a capable kick returner. Josh Scobey, Craig Terrill (two blocked FGs last season), Kevin Bentley and Niko Koutouvides are the top special-teamers.

## Summary

A healthy Matt Hasselbeck and Shaun Alexander, improved production from Deion Branch and more consistency in every facet of the game should keep the Seahawks squarely in the running for an NFC title.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

### TEAM STATISTICS

	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17	TOTALS
OPPONENT	CHI	ARI	IND	CHI	CHI	CHI	MIN	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	
Score	9-6	21-10	42-30	6-37	30-28	13-31	28-35	16-0	24-22	14-20	34-24	23-20	21-27	14-24	17-20	23-7		
Total net yards	264	341	333	230	364	290	240	371	283	303	362	270	348	300	314	344		4977
Rushing yards	91	146	106	77	125	53	50	207	160	70	235	108	120	90	153	132		1923
Passing yards	173	195	227	153	239	237	190	164	123	233	147	162	228	210	161	212		3054
Rushing plays	26	36	41	19	28	21	17	39	26	21	48	31	29	27	33	42		484
Sacks allowed	5	3	0	5	4	4	2	3	6	2	1	1	3	3	6	1		49
Had intercepted	0	2	3	2	0	2	2	0	0	3	3	1	0	2	2	0		22
Fumbles lost	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	1	0	3	0	0	1		12
Yards penalized	55	73	22	59	65	30	35	80	16	30	25	80	40	20	50	20		700
Punts	5	5	4	8	4	6	4	8	4	5	3	8	4	7	9	2		86

### OPPONENT STATISTICS

	CHI	ARI	IND	CHI	CHI	CHI	MIN	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	
Time of pos.***	27:35	28:07	22:00	35:32	32:05	32:19	42:15	24:21	33:52	36:12	23:53	29:29	34:39	31:04	27:09	22:40		30:12
Total net yards	251	256	337	362	368	332	499	185	299	416	316	302	345	390	340	287		5285
Rushing yards	38	65	73	143	59	175	191	64	108	262	51	181	113	228	168	110		2029
Passing yards	213	191	264	219	309	157	308	121	191	154	265	121	232	162	172	177		3256
Rushing plays	17	20	15	38	22	30	53	13	20	34	20	34	33	36	33	21		441
Sacks allowed	3	5	1	1	6	4	1	9	4	1	1	3	0	0	1	1		41
Had intercepted	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	1	0	0	0		12
Fumbles lost	1	1	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	2		14
Yards penalized	61	66	63	60	72	45	40	60	58	39	61	25	77	87	85	51		950
Punts	6	6	4	5	5	5	1	10	3	6	5	7	4	8	10	3		88

### INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS \*

	CHI	ARI	IND	CHI	CHI	CHI	MIN	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	
Alexander	19-51-0	26-89-1	20-47-1							17-37-0	40-201-0	26-90-1	22-76-0	23-73-1	31-140-2	28-92-1		252-896-7
Branch		1-8-0			1-19-0	1-0-0						1-3-0						4-30-0
Hasselbeck	3-15-0	2-(-2)-0			2-22-0						2-12-0		3-32-0	1-3-0	1-10-0	3-(-1)-0		18-110-0
Morris	3-23-0	4-25-0	15-18-0	11-35-0	23-74-0	17-49-0	12-25-0	30-138-0	21-124-0	2-12-0	3-6-0	3-7-0	4-12-0	2-14-0	1-3-0	10-39-0		161-604-0
Strong	1-2-0	3-30-1	5-33-0	4-15-0	2-10-0	1-3-0	2-4-0	6-20-0	3-6-0		3-16-0	1-8-0		1-0-0		1-2-0		33-149-1
Wallace						2-1-0	3-21-0	3-49-0	2-30-0	2-21-0								12-122-0

### PASSING \*\*

	CHI	ARI	IND	CHI	CHI	CHI	MIN	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	
Hasselbeck	25-30-0	12-27-2	24-33-3	16-35-2	19-34-0	7-17-0					17-36-3	16-28-1	20-28-0	20-37-2	17-37-2	17-29-0		210-371-15
Wallace		210-0	221-1	227-5	196-0	268-3					157-3	168-0	243-3	220-1	169-0	216-1		2442-18
				1-2-0	134-0	14-25-2	15-30-2	18-30-0	15-23-0	19-31-3								82-141-7
				6-0			198-3	176-1	161-2	252-2								927-8

### RECEIVING

	CHI	ARI	IND	CHI	CHI	CHI	MIN	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	CHI	
Alexander	2-1-0	1-9-0	2-12-0							1-2-0		1-2-0	2-6-0		2-2-0	1-14-0		12-48-0
Branch			2-23-0	3-57-0	6-76-2	4-60-0		2-45-0	4-61-1	3-22-0	7-113-1	4-38-0	3-23-0	3-54-0	4-54-0	5-61-0		53-725-4
Burleson	1-36-0	1-7-0	4-42-1	1-19-0				1-21-0			1-5-0	3-17-0	2-23-0	1-5-1	2-12-0			18-192-2
Engram	5-52-0	4-51-0	5-62-1	4-33-0														24-290-1
Hackett	1-14-0				3-66-0	4-37-0	3-25-1	4-58-0	3-20-0	2-19-0	5-67-1	1-13-0	4-104-1	8-87-0	3-37-0	4-63-1		45-610-4
Jackson	5-47-0	5-127-1	7-57-2	5-62-0	4-84-1	7-136-1	3-64-1	5-36-0	5-85-1	4-77-1	2-20-1	6-91-0	5-60-1					63-956-10
Milli	4-24-0			1-15-0	2-18-0	1-3-0	1-4-0	1-5-0										10-69-0
Morris	1-6-0	1-27-0		1-2-0	2-6-0	2-9-0				1-(-7)-0			1-(-5)-0		1-0-0	1-8-0		11-46-0
Stevens							3-20-1		3-29-1	1-18-0	1-3-1	2-12-0	1-7-0	5-64-1	2-24-0	4-54-0		22-231-4
Strong	6-30-0		1-3-0	2-14-0	2-8-0	3-16-0	1-8-0	4-16-0	1-5-0	2-25-0	2-12-0		3-12-0	1-3-0		1-7-0		29-159-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





Mike Holmgren

**Seattle Seahawks**

11220 N.E. 53rd Street  
Kirkland, WA 98033  
425/827-9777  
Official Website: [www.seahawks.com](http://www.seahawks.com)  
Stadium: Qwest Field  
Capacity: 67,000  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 9-7; First in NFC West

**Chairman:** Paul G. Allen; **CEO:** Tod Leiweke; **President of football operations/general manager:** Tim Ruskell; **Vice president/football administration:** John Idzik; **Vice president/player personnel:** Ruston Webster; **Director of pro personnel:** Will Lewis

**Executive V.P. of football operations/head coach:** Mike Holmgren

**Assistant coaches:** Dwaine Board, *defensive line*; Mike Clark, *strength and conditioning*; Nolan Cromwell, *wide receivers*; Bruce DeHaven, *special teams*; Keith Gilbertson, *asst. offensive line*; Gil Haskell, *offensive coordinator*; Tom Headlee, *quality control/defense*; John Jamison, *haskell's assistant*; Darren Krein, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Bill Laveroni, *offensive line*; Jim Lind, *tight ends*; Larry Marmie, *defensive assistant/secondary*; John Marshall, *defensive coordinator*; Stump Mitchell, *running backs*; Jim Mora, *defensive secondary*; Gary Reynolds, *quality control/offense*; Ray Rhodes, *special projects/defense*; Zerick Rollins, *linebackers*; Jim Zorn, *quarterbacks*.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART**

OFFENSE				
SE	18 HACKETT	81 Burleson	87 Obomanu	C. Taylor*
OLT	71 W. JONES	68 Ashworth	Vallos*	
OLG	67 SIMS	77 Womack	Wrotto*	
C	65 SPENCER	King	60 P. Ross	
ORG	62 GRAY	77 Womack	63 Murphy	
ORT	75 LOCKLEAR	68 Ashworth	74 Willis	73 Morley
TE	88 POLLARD	85 Heller	47 Joppru	89 Stephens
FL	83 BRANCH	84 Engram	Kent*	
QB	8 HASSELBECK	15 Wallace	11 Greene	7 Lulay
RB	37 ALEXANDER	20 Morris	33 Scobey	30 Weeks
FB	38 STRONG	43 Weaver	49 Parry	34 Kirtman
DEFENSE				
DLE	97 KERNEY	B. Green	72 Rasmussen	
DLT	91 DARBY	95 Davis	93 Terrill	
DRT	99 BERNARD	90 Tubbs	Mebane*	
DRE	55 TAPP	94 Fisher	Atkins*	
OLB	56 HILL	57 Bentley	Herring*	
MLB	51 TATUPU	53 Koutouvides		
OLB	59 PETERSON	50 Laury	58 Cooper	
LCB	21 JENNINGS	31 Herndon	22 Williams	35 G. Ross
RCB	23 TRUFANT	27 Babineaux	Wilson*	29 Hunter
SS	28 BOULWARE	25 Russell	42 Mi. Green	40 Celestin
FS	24 GRANT	40 Celestin		
SPECIALISTS				
P	1 PLACKEMEIER			
PK	3 BROWN			
H	1 PLACKEMEIER	8 Hasselbeck		
PR	81 BURLESON	Wilson*	84 Engram	
KR	81 BURLESON	33 Scobey	Wilson*	30 Weeks
LS	48 RACKLEY	62 Gray	45 Gafford	

\* Rookie

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Tampa Bay	4:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	at Arizona	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 23	Cincinnati	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 30	at San Francisco	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 7	at Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	New Orleans	8:15 p.m.
Oct. 21	St. Louis	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 28	BYE	
Nov. 4	at Cleveland	4:05 p.m.
Nov. 12	San Francisco	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 18	Chicago	8:15 p.m.*
Nov. 25	at St. Louis	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Philadelphia	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	Arizona	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 16	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	Baltimore	4:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Atlanta	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

**2006 RESULTS**

Pointspread refers to Arizona

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	At Detroit	(-6)	9-6
Sept. 17	Arizona	(-7)	21-10
Sept. 24	New York Giants	(-3.5)	42-30
Oct. 1	At Chicago	(+3.5)	6-37
Oct. 8	BYE		
Oct. 15	At St. Louis	(-3)	30-28
Oct. 22	Minnesota	(-6)	13-31
Oct. 29	At Kansas City	(+5.5)	28-35
Nov. 6	Oakland	(-7)	16-0
Nov. 12	St. Louis	(-3)	24-22
Nov. 19	At San Francisco	(-3)	14-20
Nov. 27	Green Bay	(-10)	34-24
Dec. 3	At Denver	(+4.5)	23-20
Dec. 10	At Arizona	(-3)	21-27
Dec. 14	San Francisco	(-10)	14-24
Dec. 24	San Diego	(+4)	17-20
Dec. 31	At Tampa Bay	(+3)	23-7
POSTSEASON			
Jan. 6	Dallas	(-1.5)	21-20
Jan. 14	At Chicago	(+9)	24-27*

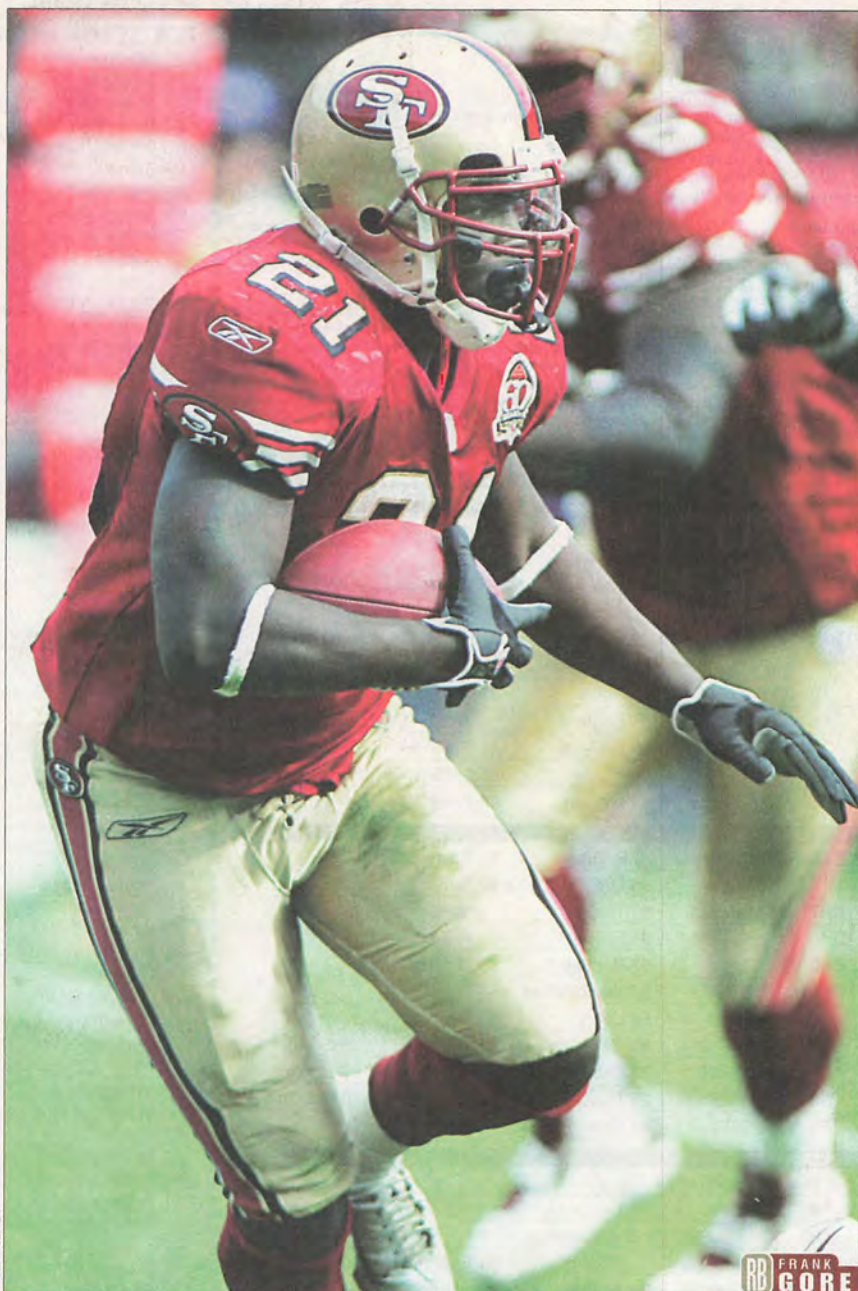
\* OVERTIME

**SEAHAWKS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
37	Alexander, Shaun	RB	5-11	225	8	Alabama	10/10
68	Ashworth, Tom	OT	6-6	305	5	Colorado	16/7
	Atkins, Baraka	DE	6-4	271	R	Miami (Fla.)	
27	Babineaux, Jordan	S	6-0	200	4	Southern Arkansas	15/8
57	Bentley, Kevin	LB	6-1	240	6	Northwestern	14/0
99	Bernard, Rocky	DT	6-3	293	6	Texas A&M	16/16
28	Boulware, Michael	S	6-2	223	4	Florida State	16/7
83	Branch, Delon	WR	5-9	193	6	Louisville	14/13
3	Brown, Josh	PK	6-0	202	5	Nebraska	16/0
81	Burleson, Nate	WR	6-0	192	5	Nevada	16/6
40	Celestin, Oliver	S	6-0	207	4	Texas Southern	13/0
58	Cooper, Marquis	LB	6-3	213	4	Washington	1/0
91	Darby, Chuck	DT	6-0	298	7	South Carolina State	16/14
	Davis, Dennis	CB	6-0	185	1	Georgia Tech	0/0
95	Davis, Russell	DT	6-4	306	9	North Carolina	13/0
84	Engram, Bobby	WR	5-10	188	12	Penn State	7/6
94	Fisher, Bryce	DE	6-3	272	7	Air Force	16/16
45	Gafford, Thomas	LS	6-2	252	1	Houston	0/0
26	Gardner, Rich	CB	5-10	194	4	Penn State	0/0
24	Grant, Deon	S	6-2	210	8	Tennessee	16/16
62	Gray, Chris	OG	6-3	308	15	Auburn	15/15
	Green, Brandon	DE	6-3	264	5	Rice	13/5
96	Green, Marcus	DT	6-1	307	2	Ohio State	2/0
42	Green, Mike	SS	6-0	195	7	Northwestern State (La.)	0/0
11	Greene, David	QB	6-3	226	2	Georgia	0/0
18	Hackett, D.J.	WR	6-2	199	3	Colorado	14/5
	Hasselbeck, Matt	QB	6-4	223	9	Boston College	12/12
85	Heller, Will	TE	6-6	265	5	Georgia Tech	16/0
31	Herndon, Kelly	CB	5-10	180	6	Toledo	16/16
	Herring, Will	LB	6-2	229	R	Auburn	
56	Hill, Leroy	LB	6-1	229	3	Clemson	15/15
29	Hunter, Pete	CB	6-2	208	4	Virginia Union	0/0
21	Jennings, Kelly	CB	5-10	178	2	Miami (Fla.)	16/2
16	Jones, Chris	WR	6-3	203	1	Jackson State	0/0
71	Jones, Walter	OT	6-5	308	11	Florida State	16/16
47	Joppru, Ben	TE	6-4	242	5	Michigan	5/0
	Kent, Jordan	WR	6-4	217	R	Oregon	
97	Kerney, Patrick	DE	6-5	273	9	Virginia	9/9
	King, Austin	C	6-3	288	5	Northwestern	14/0
34	Kirtman, David	FB	6-0	232	1	USC	0/0
53	Koutouvides, Niko	LB	6-2	244	4	Purdue	16/0
50	Laury, Lance	LB	6-2	233	2	South Carolina	8/0
75	Locklear, Sean	OT	6-3	301	4	North Carolina State	11/10
7	Lulay, Travis	QB	6-2	216	1	Montana State	0/0
	McGruder, Lynn	DT	6-1	307	1	Oklahoma	0/0
	Mebane, Brandon	DT	6-1	309	R	California	
73	Morley, Steve	OT	6-7	330	3	St. Mary's (Nova Scotia)	0/0
20	Morris, Maurice	RB	5-11	202	6	Oregon	16/8
63	Murphy, Jason	OG	6-2	304	1	Virginia Tech	0/0
87	Obomanu, Ben	WR	6-1	205	1	Auburn	0/0
49	Parry, Josh	FB	6-2	250	4	San Jose State	8/0
59	Peterson, Julian	LB	6-3	235	8	Michigan State	16/16
	Plackemeier, Ryan	P	6-3	252	2	Wake Forest	16/0
88	Pollard, Marcus	TE	6-3	250	13	Bradley	15/5
48	Rackley, Derek	LS	6-4	250	8	Minnesota	15/0
72	Rasmussen, Kemp	DE	6-3	265	5	Indiana	0/0
	Robinson, Tony	LB	6-1	235	1	Carson-Newman	0/0
35	Ross, Gerard	CB	6-1	200	1	Florida State	0/0
60	Ross, Pat	C	6-3	305	1	Boston College	0/0
25	Russell, Brian	S	6-2	207	6	San Diego State	12/12
33	Scobey, Josh	RB	6-0	220	5	Kansas State	12/0
67	Sims, Rob	OG	6-4	310	2	Ohio State	14/3
65	Spencer, Chris	OG-C	6-3	309	3	Mississippi	16/13
89	Stephens, Leonard	TE	6-3	250	3	Howard	0/0
38	Strong, Mack	FB	6-0	245	14	Georgia	16/10
69	Tafoya, Joe	DE	6-4	265	5	Arizona	13/0
55	Tapp, Darryl	DE	6-1	265	2	Virginia Tech	16/0
51	Tatupu, Lofa	LB	6-0	238	3	USC	16/16
	Taylor, Courtney	WR	6-1	209	R	Auburn	
92	Taylor, Eric	DT	6-2	305	2	Memphis	0/0
93	Terrill, Craig	DT	6-3	287	4	Purdue	11/0
23	Trufant, Marcus	CB	5-11	199	5	Washington State	15/15
90	Tubbs, Marcus	DT	6-3	320	4	Texas	5/2
	Vallos, Steve	OT	6-3	290	R	Wake Forest	
15	Wallace, Seneca	QB	5-11	196	5	Iowa State	8/4
43	Weaver, Leonard	FB	6-0	251	2	Carson-Newman	0/0
30	Weeks, Marquis	RB	5-10	216	2	Virginia	10/0
22	Williams, Jimmy	CB	5-11	190	7	Vanderbilt	16/0
74	Willis, Ray	OT	6-6	327	3	Florida State	1/0
	Wilson, Josh	CB	5-9	190	R	Maryland	
77	Womack, Floyd	OG-OT	6-4	330	7	Mississippi State	9/9
	Wrotto, Mansfield	OG	6-3	316	R	Georgia Tech	



# SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS



ROBERT LEITER

RB FRANK GORE

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **8-8** 2nd place /  
NFC West

**W**ith more money under the salary cap than any other team, the Niners wasted little time fortifying a franchise that exceeded expectations with seven victories in 2006.

At the top of the list of noteworthy free-agent newcomers is CB Nate Clements, who signed what is believed to be the richest contract for a free-agent defender in league history.

The team hopes to overcome the departure of offensive coordinator

Norv Turner, who left to coach the Chargers, and continue the considerable progress it made offensively last season by keeping Turner's successful run-first system intact with some new wrinkles.

On defense, the Niners have struggled to install a consistent 3-4 scheme the last four years and hope new coordinator Greg Manusky, formerly the Chargers' LB coach, can make a difference with improved talent.

## Offense

The key to the offense's improvement was a breakout season by RB Frank Gore,

who set franchise records in rushing yards and total yards from scrimmage. In addition, QB Alex Smith made huge strides in his second season after a very rough rookie campaign, nearly doubling his passer rating. But there's still major room for improvement in a passing game that netted only two 100-yard performances the entire season from the team's receivers.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Alex Smith must adjust to his third different coordinator in three seasons (Mike McCarthy, Norv Turner and now Jim Hostler). Smith became the first QB in team history to take every snap last season and showed a great ability to absorb hits and bounce back up without missing a beat. He is a very good athlete who operates





quite well outside the pocket on bootlegs and making plays on the run, which allows his receivers to get separation. But he still puts the ball on the ground too much and has a knack for looking deep when shorter routes are open. Norv Turner thought very highly of Smith's deep touch, but Smith is primarily a fastball pitcher. When contained in the pocket, he has a long delivery, and his hands drop, which increases the likelihood of fumbles. But he has a strong relationship with Hostler that should keep his arrow pointing up. Smith once again will benefit from the guidance of Trent Dilfer, a solid, supportive backup, as well as a commanding presence in the locker room.

**RUNNING BACKS** In addition to becoming the first 49ers player to lead the NFC in rushing, banging out an eye-popping 5.4 yards per carry, Frank Gore led the team in catches with 61 and did a superb job picking up blitzers. Gore is a crafty, low-to-the-ground battering ram who almost always picks up positive yardage. He can turn the corner as well as run between the tackles with an uncanny ability to slip through the smallest of creases. Gore has great vision, and his ability to hit holes at full speed sets him apart, as does his tireless work ethic.

Maurice Hicks is a quick, shifty change-of-pace back with big-play ability every time he touches the ball. Michael Robinson, a fourth-round pick last year, is a very versatile weapon with a natural, fluid running style. Robinson packs a deceptively mean wallop when he gets a full head of steam, and, as a converted quarterback, he is also an intriguing trick-play option. FB Moran Norris is a solid lead blocker for Gore and also showed a little offensive flare down the stretch last season.

**RECEIVERS** The Niners hope trade addition Darrell Jackson, a consistently productive receiver in Seattle when he was healthy, and free-agent addition Ashley Lelie, a former first-round pick of the Broncos who twice led the league in yards per catch during his four-year stint in Denver, can add some badly needed pop to the team's receiver corps. Jackson's secret is his deceptive foot quickness that allows him to separate. Lelie can run by anybody, but he has had his share of issues and was ordinary at best last season for the Falcons, catching only 28 passes for 430 yards and dropping several balls. Previously injury-prone Arnaz Battle played through a broken hand to become the team's most dependable possession receiver. Battle is a superb blocker on a par with the Steelers' Hines Ward in the eyes of team observers, and he is another converted QB who offers trick-play prowess. Fleet-footed Bryan Gilmore was the Niners' third receiver most of last season. Brandon Williams, a third-round pick last year, was a disappointment who needs to show major improvement in '07. Third-round rookie Jason Hill also figures in the mix. At tight end, freakishly athletic Vernon Davis is faster than most top-flight wide-

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **FRANK GORE**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
CB **NATE CLEMENTS**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
TE **VERNON DAVIS**

With his great natural skills, Davis has what it takes to become one of the league's top tight ends if he can stay healthy.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
RCB:  
**WALT HARRIS vs. SHAWNTAE SPENCER**

Harris is coming off an outstanding season, but Spencer has youth on his side. The loser will still see plenty of action in nickel sets.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**

LB Tully Banta-Cain, LB Colby Bockwoldt, CB Nate Clements, NT Aubrayo Franklin, WR Darrell Jackson, WR Ashley Lelie, S Michael Lewis.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**

S Mike Adams, WR Antonio Bryant, TE Eric Johnson, C Jeremy Newberry.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Patrick Willis	LB	Mississippi	11
1	Joe Staley	OT	Central Michigan	28
3	Jason Hill	WR	Washington State	76
3	Ray McDonald	DE-DT	Florida	97
4	Jay Moore	LB-DE	Nebraska	104
4	Dashon Goldson	S	Washington	126
4	Joe Cohen	DT-DE	Florida	135
5	Tarell Brown	CB	Texas	147
6	Thomas Clayton	RB	Kansas State	186



outs. But the Niners' '06 first-round pick needs to stay healthy — he missed six games with a broken fibula — and get a better grip on the Niners' system. He also needs to show better maturity — he committed a few sins of youthful exuberance for which he was reprimanded — and reduce his number of dropped passes. TE/H-back Delanie Walker, the surprise of the '06 training camp, was limited by a shoulder injury last season but has big-play potential. At 6-foot-4, 261 pounds, Billy Bajema is a quality blocking tight end.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** Despite missing five games in the first half of the 2006 season with a knee injury, veteran free-agent addition Larry Allen offered power and experience at left guard and was a big help in the meeting room with all the team's young players. Allen returned to his dominating form after his injury and was chosen

as a Pro Bowl reserve. Allen developed a quick rapport with starting OLT Jonas Jennings, whose two-year career with the Niners has been limited by injuries. Jennings is a complete tackle with a big body. He's an especially strong run-blocker, but the Niners need him on the field more. Battling for the starting OLT job will be late first-round pick Joe Staley, who also might challenge Jennings on the left side, Kwame Harris and Adam Snyder, who could possibly move to guard. Staley was the fastest lineman at this year's Combine. Ill-timed penalties and assignment breakdowns have been a problem for Harris, but the former first-round pick is a strong run blocker who played a lot better than the previous season. Entering his third season, Snyder is a very smooth operator with good size who, unlike Harris, never gets flustered. At right guard, Justin Smiley excels in pulling situations and is as tough as they come. Smiley played in considerable pain much of the season with a torn labrum suffered in Week Two. Smiley could receive strong competition at right guard from third-year pro David Baas, who is smart, strong and fearless but needs to harness his aggressiveness. Before going down for the count in Week 15 with a broken right tibia, C Eric Heitmann did an excellent job calling signals for the line and was performing at a Pro Bowl level. After playing in three different leagues and getting cut by five different teams, hard-working Tony Wragge proved to be a very valuable reserve last season as the first lineman off the bench. Wragge did a solid job replacing both Allen early in the season and Heitmann late in the season.

## Defense

The Niners were on pace to give up the most points in league history through the first seven games last season before doing a jaw-dropping about-face in the next three games, when they allowed a mere 30 points. A major turning point was the insertion of LB Brandon Moore, S Keith Lewis and DT Ronald Fields into the starting lineup at the season's halfway mark.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** Returning for his 14th season with the team, veteran DE Bryant Young will likely play fewer snaps in 2007 to maximize his effectiveness. He led Niners defensive linemen with 5½ sacks last season and remains a valuable team leader who sets a great example with his exemplary work ethic and professionalism. The same goes for fellow starting DE Marques Douglas, a classic overachiever who plays his best against the toughest competition. Though he isn't considered much of a pass rusher, Douglas consistently makes tackles for loss against the run. He also rivals the Niners coaches when it comes to watching film. Ronald Fields, a decent run stuffer who can hold the point and occupy blockers, is best-suited to play left defensive end. His '06 season was cut short after he broke his right arm in a late-December practice. Roderick Green, who registered 4½ sacks in



a six-game stretch last season, and '06 fifth-round pick Parys Haralson, who was becoming a regular as a nickel pass rusher before tearing a pectoral muscle in Week Nine, add pass-rushing presence. Melvin Oliver, who earned a starting job as a 4-3 end in last year's training camp, and third-round pick Ray McDonald also figure in the rotation. The Niners believe free-agent addition Aubrayo Franklin, who played under Mike Nolan in Baltimore, has the kind of girth and toughness at the point of attack to be the anchor in the middle of the team's reconfigured defense. At 6-1, 320, he is an aggressive, physical lineman. Franklin will be challenged at nose tackle by holdover widebody Isaac Sopoaga.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Manny Lawson, the Niners' second No. 1 pick last year, is a superb natural athlete who is still making a transition from end to outside linebacker, where he has to think more before just reacting and making a play. Lawson is lean for an edge rusher but is hesitant to bulk up for fear of losing his exceptional speed. He has great range and coverage ability but needs to continue developing his counter moves in order to get up to speed when matched up against athletic NFL tackles. Free-agent addition Tully Banta-Cain, who grew up just a few minutes from the Niners' training complex in Santa Clara, provides a badly needed pass-rushing spark. Banta-Cain, who collected 5½ sacks as a part-time starter for the Patriots last season (plus two more sacks in

the playoffs), brings a wealth of 3-4 experience to go with a pair of Super Bowl rings. Brandon Moore is a very versatile weapon, who offers good speed and aggressiveness with the ability to play both inside and outside. Moore, first-round pick Patrick Willis and veteran Derek Smith will compete for the starting jobs inside. The Niners

fell in love with Willis at the Senior Bowl and believe he has the speed and instincts to make a huge impact right away. Despite a nagging eye injury that caused Smith to see double last season, he still recorded 68 tackles. After undergoing surgery on the eye, Smith will refrain from contact until the preseason. Jeff Ulbrich, another inside 'backer who had injury issues last season, provides consistently effective run support but is starting to struggle to keep up with running backs in pass coverage.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Widely considered the top free agent available this offseason, Nate Clements is a big, sturdy corner with great playmaking ability and closing speed who never missed a game in six seasons with the Bills. At 27, Clements is entering the prime of his career. Competing for the starting job at right corner opposite

Clements are 2006 free-agent addition Walt Harris, who put together what might have been the best season by a Niners CB since Deion Sanders in 1994, and Shawntae Spencer. Harris quickly became a team leader and almost singlehandedly won games against the Raiders and Broncos with

his surprising playmaking ability in clutch situations. Spencer has good size, quickness and hitting ability, but he's not real durable. Mark Roman, a smart, high-character player, is expected to start at free safety, with free-agent addition Michael Lewis projected as the starter at strong safety. Lewis is a downhill, hard-hitting player who offers strong run support but is a bit slow dropping into coverage. Keith Lewis and fourth-round pick Dashon Goldson offer depth.

## Special teams

PK Joe Nedney was solid last season but not as exceptional as the year before, when he was named the team's co-MVP. The Niners matched an offer to retain P Andy Lee, who significantly improved his punting inside the 20 using a different drop on his shorter kicks. Maurice Hicks is a quality kickoff returner, but Brandon Williams was a bust last season returning punts and will be challenged for the job this season. Keith Lewis, who excels on special teams, and Colby Bockwoldt, who led the Titans with 20 special-teams tackles in 2006, will anchor the coverage units.

## Summary

If Darrell Jackson and/or Ashley Lelie can fill the bill as steady downfield threats, and a pass defense that surrendered 25 TD receptions last season (tied for fourth-most in the league) can tighten up with help from an amped-up pass rush, the Niners could be a very interesting dark horse in Mike Nolan's third season.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS																		
OPPONENT	WK 1 @ANZ	WK 2 STL	WK 3 PHIL	WK 4 @K.C.	WK 5 DAX	WK 6 S.D.	WK 8 @CHI	WK 9 MINN.	WK 10 @DET.	WK 11 SEA	WK 12 @STL	WK 13 @N.O.	WK 14 @B.	WK 15 @SEA	WK 16 ARIZ	WK 17 @DEN	TOTALS	
Score	27-34	20-13	24-38	0-41	34-20	19-48	10-41	9-3	19-13	20-14	17-20	10-34	19-30	24-14	20-26	26-23		
Total net yards	393	360	392	165	330	274	248	133	315	416	319	202	340	390	223	360	4860	
Rushing yards	107	127	123	89	165	92	127	42	198	262	171	57	146	228	49	189	2172	
Passing yards	286	233	269	76	165	182	121	91	117	154	148	145	194	162	174	171	2688	
Rushing plays	18	33	28	22	41	14	19	26	44	34	31	15	25	38	12	39	439	
Sacks allowed	1	0	3	4	0	5	2	3	3	1	0	4	1	0	4	4	35	
Had intercepted	0	0	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	2	3	2	0	1	1	16	
Fumbles lost	2	1	2	2	0	1	3	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	16	
Yards penalized	62	20	64	73	20	116	38	56	51	39	34	37	25	87	35	61	818	
Punts	4	4	7	7	1	4	4	6	3	6	4	7	5	8	4	7	81	
OPPONENT STATISTICS																		
Time of poss.***	35:02	34:37	24:39	35:15	24:47	35:48	37:05	34:45	21:11	23:48	30:34	37:19	33:31	28:56	37:40	28:00	31:26	
Total net yards	367	265	416	333	370	421	402	238	251	303	349	375	420	300	372	325	5507	
Rushing yards	84	118	150	125	154	87	145	135	71	70	140	190	139	90	123	115	1936	
Passing yards	283	147	266	208	216	334	257	103	180	233	209	185	281	210	249	210	3571	
Rushing plays	29	28	18	40	23	30	35	33	17	21	29	41	34	27	41	27	473	
Sacks allowed	3	6	3	0	1	0	1	3	3	2	2	1	1	3	2	3	34	
Had intercepted	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	2	0	14	
Fumbles lost	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	13	
Yards penalized	85	40	72	30	35	51	49	65	40	30	35	47	10	20	45	49	703	
Punts	4	5	4	4	2	1	3	5	3	5	5	5	5	7	2	6	66	
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																		
RUSHING																		
Battle							1-(-3)-0	1-(-6)-0		1-12-0					1-18-0		1-4-0	5-25-0
Gilmore	1-22-0					2-31-0				1-10-0	1-(-1)-0	1-12-0				1-20-0		7-94-0
Gore	16-87-2	29-127-1	16-52-0	14-65-0	27-134-0	10-55-0	12-111-0	19-41-0	22-159-1	24-212-0	21-134-1	13-40-0	18-130-1	29-144-0	11-51-2	31-153-0	312-1695-8	
Hicks			1-3-0			1-4-0			9-20-0	5-17-0	7-32-0	1-5-0	3-3-0	1-0-0	1-(-2)-0		29-82-0	
Robinson	1-(-2)-0	1-1-0	5-29-2	4-13-0	12-21-0	1-2-0	1-(-4)-0	3-3-0	5-4-0	2-10-0	2-6-0			1-33-0			38-116-2	
A. Smith		3-(-1)-0	6-39-0	4-11-0	2-10-0		5-23-0	3-4-0	8-15-0	1-1-1			3-4-0	6-33-1		3-8-0	44-147-2	
PASSING **																		
Robinson																0-1-0	0-1-0	
A. Smith	23-40-0	11-22-0	27-46-0	13-25-2	15-19-1	20-31-1	14-25-2	13-21-1	14-20-0	19-25-0	13-25-2	14-28-3	12-29-2	14-25-0	18-29-1	17-32-1	257-442-16	
	288-1	233-0	293-1	92-0	165-3	214-2	135-1	105-0	136-0	163-1	148-1	171-1	201-1	162-2	190-0	194-1	2890-16	
RECEIVING																		
Battle	2-17-0	3-78-0	3-28-0	3-34-0	4-37-2	5-39-0	3-35-0	1-18-0	6-55-0	5-47-1	3-36-0	4-43-0	1-11-0	5-97-0	7-55-0	4-56-0	59-686-3	
Bryant	4-114-0	4-131-1	4-36-0	2-29-0	3-27-0	4-79-0	4-44-1	2-24-0	2-42-0	2-21-0	2-53-0	4-79-1	1-39-0	2-16-0			40-733-3	
V. Davis	5-37-1										1-11-0	1-21-0	3-74-1	3-15-1	4-91-0	3-16-0	20-265-3	
Gilmore	2-19-0	1-14-0	1-75-0	1-6-0		1-15-1		1-7-0								1-14-0	8-150-1	
Gore	6-83-0	2-10-0	6-22-0	2-14-0	3-38-0	5-35-0	2-9-0	5-36-0	2-14-0	4-26-0	4-31-0	5-28-0	3-36-0	4-34-1	6-35-0	2-32-0	61-485-1	
Hicks	1-7-0		4-42-0	1-2-0	1-33-1	1-16-0			2-18-0	3-19-0							13-137-1	
Jacobs														1-5-0				
E. Johnson	1-2-0		7-87-1	3-14-0	3-23-0	3-29-0	3-40-0	3-15-0	2-7-0	4-48-0	3-17-1				1-9-0	2-15-0	4-29-0	
Norris				1-(-7)-0	1-7-0	1-2-1				1-2-0						2-10-0	34-292-2	
Robinson	1-9-0		2-3-0				2-7-0	1-5-0						1-4-0		1-32-1	5-36-2	
																2-19-0	9-47-0	

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## San Francisco 49ers

4949 Centennial Boulevard  
Santa Clara, CA 95054  
408/562-4949  
Official Website: [www.49ers.com](http://www.49ers.com)  
Stadium: Monster Park  
Capacity: 69,732  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 7-9; Third in NFC West

**Owners:** Denise DeBartolo York, John York; **Executive vice president of football operations:** Lal Heneghan; **Vice president of player personnel:** Scot McCloughan; **Director of pro personnel:** Tom Gamble; **Director of college scouting:** David McCloughan

**Head coach:** Mike Nolan

**Assistant coaches:** Duane Carlisle, *asst. strength and conditioning*; Frank Cignetti, *quarterbacks*; Al Everest, *special-teams coordinator*; Bishop Harris, *running backs*; Pete Hoenner, *tight ends*; Jim Hostler, *offensive coordinator*; Vance Joseph, *secondary*; Johnnie Lynn, *secondary*; Greg Manusky, *defensive coordinator*; Mark Nori, *asst. offensive line*; Johnny Parker, *strength and conditioning*; Jeff Rodgers, *asst. special teams*; Mike Singletary, *asst. head coach/defense*; Jerry Sullivan, *wide receivers/senior assistant*; Jason Tarver, *defensive assistant/outside linebackers*; Jim Tomsula, *defensive line*; George Warhop, *offensive line*.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

### OFFENSE

WR	<b>JACKSON</b>	82 Lelie	84 Gilmore	88 Jacobs
OLT	<b>75 J. JENNINGS</b>	74 Staley*	78 Estes	
OLG	<b>71 ALLEN</b>	69 Wragge	Steitz	
C	<b>86 HEITMANN</b>	69 Wragge	64 Baas	
ORG	<b>65 SMILEY</b>	64 Baas		
ORT	<b>74 STALEY*</b>	77 K. Harris	68 Snyder	76 Dahl
TE	<b>85 DAVIS</b>	46 Walker	47 Bajema	
WR	<b>83 BATTLE</b>	81 Williams	J. Hill*	
QB	<b>11 A. SMITH</b>	12 Dilfer	13 S. Hill	
RB	<b>21 GORE</b>	43 Hicks	24 Robinson	Clayton*
FB	<b>44 NORRIS</b>			

### DEFENSE

DLT	<b>94 DOUGLAS</b>	93 Fields	91 McDonald*	J. Moore*
NT	<b>92 FRANKLIN</b>	90 Sopoaga	63 Duckett	76 Cohen*
DRE	<b>97 YOUNG</b>	96 Oliver	54 Green	98 Haralson
LOLB	<b>99 LAWSON</b>	55 Navies	98 Haralson	J. Moore*
LILB	<b>56 B. MOORE</b>	57 Bockwoldt		
RILB	<b>52 WILLIS*</b>	50 D. Smith	53 Ulbrich	
ROLB	<b>95 BANTA-CAIN</b>	56 B. Moore	55 Navies	54 Green
LCB	<b>22 CLEMENTS</b>	20 Tucker	23 Hudson	25 Brown*
RCB	<b>27 W. HARRIS</b>	36 Spencer	30 Strickland	
SS	<b>32 M. LEWIS</b>	28 K. Lewis		
FS	<b>26 ROMAN</b>	23 Hudson	38 Goldson*	

### SPECIALISTS

P	<b>4 LEE</b>			
PK	<b>6 NEDNEY</b>			
H	<b>4 LEE</b>			
PR	<b>81 WILLIAMS</b>	83 Battle		
KR	<b>43 HICKS</b>	81 Williams		
LS	<b>86 B. JENNINGS</b>			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 10	Arizona	10:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	at St. Louis	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Pittsburgh	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	Seattle	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 7	Baltimore	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 14	BYE	
Oct. 21	at N.Y. Giants	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	New Orleans	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 4	at Atlanta	1 p.m.
Nov. 12	at Seattle	8:30 p.m.
Nov. 18	St. Louis	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Arizona	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 2	at Carolina	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	Minnesota	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 15	Cincinnati	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 23	Tampa Bay	8:15 p.m.*
Dec. 30	at Cleveland	1 p.m.

\* — Game time subject to change

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to San Francisco

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 10	At Arizona	(+9) 27-34
Sept. 17	St. Louis	(+3) 20-13
Sept. 24	Philadelphia	(+6) 24-38
Oct. 1	At Kansas City	(+7) 0-41
Oct. 8	Oakland	(-3.5) 34-20
Oct. 15	San Diego	(+10) 19-48
Oct. 22	BYE	
Oct. 29	At Chicago	(+16) 10-41
Nov. 5	Minnesota	(+4) 9-3
Nov. 12	At Detroit	(+6.5) 19-13
Nov. 19	Seattle	(+3) 20-14
Nov. 26	At St. Louis	(+4.5) 17-20
Dec. 3	At New Orleans	(+7.5) 10-34
Dec. 10	Green Bay	(-4) 19-30
Dec. 14	At Seattle	(+10) 24-14
Dec. 24	Arizona	(-3.5) 20-26
Dec. 31	At Denver	(+11) 26-23*

\* OVERTIME

## 49ERS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
71	Allen, Larry	OG	6-3	325	14	Sonoma State	11/11
64	Baas, David	OG	6-4	312	3	Michigan	16/0
47	Bajema, Billy	TE	6-4	255	3	Oklahoma State	16/6
95	Banta-Cain, Tully	LB	6-2	250	5	California	16/5
83	Battle, Arnaz	WR	6-1	206	5	Notre Dame	16/15
57	Bockwoldt, Colby	LB	6-2	237	4	Brigham Young	16/1
14	Brewer, C.J.	WR	6-2	205	1	Wyoming	0/0
25	Brown, Tarell	CB	5-11	192	R	Texas	
	Clayton, Thomas	RB	6-2	205	R	Kansas State	
22	Clements, Nate	CB	6-1	209	7	Ohio State	16/16
76	Cohen, Joe	DT-DE	6-2	295	R	Florida	
76	Dahl, Harvey	OT	6-5	305	2	Nevada	4/0
85	Davis, Vernon	TE	6-3	253	2	Maryland	10/8
12	Dilfer, Trent	QB	6-4	234	14	Fresno State	0/0
94	Douglas, Marques	DE	6-2	286	7	Howard	16/16
63	Duckett, Damane	DT	6-6	300	4	East Carolina	1/0
78	Estes, Patrick	OT	6-7	283	3	Virginia	16/3
93	Fields, Ronald	DT	6-2	310	3	Mississippi State	13/9
92	Franklin, Aubrayo	DT	6-1	320	5	Tennessee	14/0
38	Goldson, Dashon	S	6-2	205	R	Washington	
84	Gilmore, Bryan	WR	6-1	193	7	Midwestern State	16/3
21	Gore, Frank	RB	5-9	215	3	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
54	Green, Roderick	DE-LB	6-2	245	4	Central Missouri St.	9/0
98	Haralson, Parys	DE-LB	6-1	250	2	Tennessee	7/0
	Hardy, Jermaine	S	5-10	218	1	Virginia	0/0
77	Harris, Kwame	OT	6-7	306	5	Stanford	16/16
27	Harris, Walt	CB	5-11	192	12	Mississippi State	15/15
66	Heitmann, Eric	C	6-3	307	6	Stanford	14/14
43	Hicks, Maurice	RB	5-11	196	4	North Carolina A&T	16/0
	Hill, Jason	WR	6-1	204	R	Washington State	
13	Hill, Shaun	QB	6-3	226	6	Maryland	0/0
23	Hudson, Marcus	CB-S	6-2	200	2	North Carolina State	16/0
	Jackson, Darrell	WR	6-1	201	8	Florida	13/13
88	Jacobs, Taylor	WR	6-1	202	5	Florida	8/0
86	Jennings, Brian	TE-LS	6-5	233	8	Arizona State	16/0
75	Jennings, Jonas	OT	6-3	323	7	Georgia	13/13
45	Keasey, Zak	RB	6-1	236	1	Princeton	0/0
99	Lawson, Manny	LB	6-5	240	2	North Carolina State	16/11
	Lee, Andy	P	6-0	183	4	Pittsburgh	16/0
82	Lelie, Ashley	WR	6-3	200	6	Hawaii	15/10
28	Lewis, Keith	S	6-0	210	4	Oregon	16/9
32	Lewis, Michael	S	6-1	222	6	Colorado	10/0
19	Maxwell, Marcus	WR	6-4	205	2	Oregon	0/0
91	McDonald, Ray	DE-DT	6-3	276	R	Florida	
56	Moore, Brandon	LB	6-1	246	6	Oklahoma	16/11
	Moore, Jay	LB-DE	6-4	274	R	Nebraska	
55	Navies, Hannibal	LB	6-3	252	9	Colorado	6/3
6	Nedney, Joe	PK	6-5	235	11	San Jose State	16/0
44	Norris, Moran	FB	6-2	250	7	Kansas	14/7
96	Oliver, Melvin	DE	6-3	279	2	LSU	16/14
24	Robinson, Michael	RB	6-1	218	2	Penn State	16/0
26	Roman, Mark	S	5-11	201	8	LSU	16/11
52	Slaughter, T.J.	LB	6-1	233	8	Southern Miss	10/1
65	Smiley, Justin	OG	6-3	300	4	Alabama	16/16
11	Smith, Alex	QB	6-4	210	3	Utah	16/16
50	Smith, Derek	LB	6-2	237	11	Arizona State	13/12
68	Snyder, Adam	OG	6-6	312	3	Oregon	14/6
90	Sopoaga, Isaac	DT	6-2	332	3	Hawaii	15/2
36	Spencer, Shawntae	CB	6-1	179	4	Pittsburgh	13/13
74	Staley, Joe	OT	6-5	306	R	Central Michigan	
	Steitz, Nick	OG	6-1	300	1	Oregon	0/0
30	Strickland, Donald	CB	5-10	187	5	Colorado	3/3
	Syptak, John	DE	6-1	253	1	Rice	0/0
20	Tucker, B.J.	CB	5-10	188	3	Wisconsin	4/1
53	Ulbrich, Jeff	LB	6-0	240	8	Hawaii	16/9
31	Vaughn, Vickiel	S	6-1	204	1	Arkansas	0/0
46	Walker, Delanie	TE	6-1	237	2	Central Missouri State	7/1
67	Washington, Tavares	OT	6-3	320	1	Florida	0/0
81	Williams, Brandon	WR	5-11	175	2	Wisconsin	13/0
52	Willis, Patrick	LB	6-1	242	R	Mississippi	
69	Wragge, Tony	OG	6-4	320	4	New Mexico State	14/4
97	Young, Bryant	DE	6-3	297	14	Notre Dame	16/16



# ST. LOUIS RAMS



NORM HALL

RB STEVEN JACKSON

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **7-9** 3rd place /  
NFC West

Not only do the Rams feel confident they can put together their first winning season since the 2003 team coached by Mike Martz, but after ending the '06 season with a three-game win streak, second-year head coach Scott Linehan believes his team has a legitimate shot at a division title in '07.

There's no denying that the Rams' offense has playoff potential, with Pro

Bowl RB Steven Jackson, Pro Bowl QB Marc Bulger and five players who caught at least 45 passes last season, including newcomers Drew Bennett and Randy McMichael.

But Jim Haslett's defense needs to be a lot better — especially against the run — after underachieving last season.

## Offense

In Scott Linehan's safety-first system, RB Steven Jackson's considerable all-around talent was maximized both rushing and receiving. A turning point came when

Linehan turned the play-calling duties over to offensive coordinator Greg Olson after the Rams' worst loss of the season — a 15-0 Week 11 shutout in Carolina. With Olson calling the shots, the team averaged 27.5 points in the final six games.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Marc Bulger gradually became quite comfortable in the team's toned-down offense, setting team records for pass attempts and lowest percentage of passes intercepted and also reaching career highs in completions, passing yards and TD passes. Playing in all 16 games for the first time, Bulger earned his second Pro Bowl berth and also became more of a team leader, uncharacteristically lashing out at unspecified players after a particularly dis-



turbing loss to the Cardinals early last December. His even temperament helped create a nice consistency in his performance. Bulger's decision-making was excellent, with more freedom to change plays if necessary, and his accuracy was among the best in the league. With previous experience in Scott Linehan's system in Minnesota and Miami, Gus Frerotte remains a solid, willing backup. Harvard graduate Ryan Fitzpatrick is a smart, tough third-stringer.

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Steven Jackson's 2,334 total yards last season were the fifth-best total in league history. Missing only part of one game the entire season (his legs cramped up in the Monday-night loss to the Bears), Jackson improved his running between the tackles, learning to be more decisive instead of dancing and juking in search of the big play. Jackson had more first downs in 3rd-and-1 situations than any back in the league. He also thrived as a receiver out of the backfield, benefiting on the emphasis on check-downs in the team's new offense. He also became a more willing blocker in pass protection and blitz pickups but still needs to improve in that area. Behind Jackson, second-round pick Brian Leonard shapes up as an ideal complement with good size, speed and versatility. Leonard is also considered a good receiver out of the backfield with excellent character, both on and off the field. Ex-Dolphin Travis Minor, who has a history with Scott Linehan, can be expected to share the third-down role with Leonard. Third-year pro Madison Hedgecock is a serviceable blocking fullback.

**RECEIVERS** ■ It still takes two quality cornerbacks to handle Torry Holt, 31, and Isaac Bruce, who turns 35 in November. After undergoing knee surgery in early February, Holt hopes to be free of the pain that has hindered him the last couple of seasons. After Holt's three-TD performance vs. Seattle in mid-October, including what might have been the catch of the year, he got more attention from opposing DBs than ever, and his numbers dipped. However, Holt, who racked up more receiving yards than any player in league history in his first eight seasons, remains adept at setting up defenders and adjusting the speed of his routes. Bruce, the Rams' career leader in receptions and receiving yards, rebounded impressively in 2006 after missing five games the previous season with a dislocated toe. His 14.8-yard average per catch showed he can still get separation against any corner, and his value as a mentor to the team's younger players is considerable. Ex-Titan Drew Bennett — at 6-foot-5 the tallest receiver ever to play for the Rams in St. Louis — should be an inviting target in the red zone and over the middle. Bennett also offers versatility, having played flanker, split end and in the slot in Tennessee. Ex-Dolphin Randy McMichael is a durable,

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
RB **STEVEN JACKSON**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
DE **LEONARD LITTLE**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**

**FS O.J. ATOGWE**  
Atogwe steadily improved in his first year as a starter and made a ton of plays. Entering his third season, he has star potential.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
**C:**  
**BRETT ROMBERG VS. ANDY MCCOLLUM**  
Can McCollum, the longtime starter before being lost last year with a knee injury, win the job back from the resourceful Romberg?

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**  
**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
WR Drew Bennett, LB Chris Draft, RS-WR Dante Hall, DE James Hall, S Todd Johnson, P Donnie Jones, TE Randy McMichael, RB Travis Minor, CB Mike Rumph, CB Lenny Walls.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
LB Dexter Coakley, WR Kevin Curtis, CB Travis Fisher, WR Shaun McDonald, FB Paul Smith, OG Adam Timmerman, P Matt Turk.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Adam Carriker	DT-DE	Nebraska	13
2	Brian Leonard	RB-FB	Rutgers	52
3	Jonathan Wade	CB	Tennessee	84
5	Dustin Fry	C	Clemson	139
5	Cliff Ryan	DT-DE	Michigan State	154
6	Ken Shackleford	OT	Georgia	190
7	Keith Jackson	DT	Arkansas	248
7	Derek Stanley	WR	Wisc.-Whitewater	249



every-down tight end with the ability to stretch the field but is best at running intermediate routes. McMichael is also good on third down coming out of the backfield filling an H-back type role. Second-year TE Joe Klopfenstein should see plenty of action in two-TE sets and should benefit from not having to be overly relied upon in blocking situations. Fellow second-year TE Dominique Byrd's raw talent is offset by his immaturity and off-the-field baggage. TE Aaron Walker is primarily a blocker.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ OLT Orlando Pace, who missed one game with a concussion and seven games with a torn left triceps muscle last season, is still considered an elite, all-around tackle when healthy. Pace is still an imposing presence who has always been extremely light on his feet despite his massive frame. ORT Alex Barron, who played the last third of the 2006

season with a knee problem that required offseason surgery, remains a promising talent, but he still needs to improve both his upper- and lower-body strength in the weight room. Barron has good quickness and a huge wingspan, but he gets pushed back too frequently by bull-rushers and had a serious problem with false-start penalties in '06. The projected starter at right guard is Richie Incognito, who started all 16 games last season at three different positions. He's a big, physical Conrad Dobler-type throwback with plenty of power, but he needs to do a much better job controlling his temper and avoiding ill-timed penalties. Mark Setterstrom, a seventh-round draft pick last season, looks like a keeper at left guard following six strong late-season starts. He improved his strength thanks to extra time in the training room, but he still needs work on his pass blocking, which was considered a weakness coming out of college. Brett Romberg, plucked off the Jaguars' practice squad last September, proved to be a late-season surprise at center. Tenacious but undersized, Romberg provides good leverage, hand use and savvy. Heady veteran Andy McCollum, who suffered a season-ending knee injury on opening day in '06, will vie for the center spot with Romberg. Todd Steussie, another seasoned pro, figures to be the third offensive tackle while also providing depth at guard. Adam Goldberg, who has experience at both tackle and guard, and OG Claude Terrell provide further depth.

## Defense

The Rams allowed an NFC-high 145.4 yards per game rushing last season, as teams particularly picked on the right side of the defense. Their outside pass rush also left a great deal to be desired. Other than Leonard Little, the team got only two sacks from the end position.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ Pro Bowl alternate Leonard Little had 13 sacks and six forced fumbles operating on the left edge despite constantly having to fight through double teams due to a lack of support. The Rams moved Little around frequently to keep offenses guessing from where he might attack. Little was in a much better frame of mind in 2006 than he was the previous season, when the murder of one brother and the stress of another brother serving in Iraq took its toll. The Rams hope James Hall, obtained in a trade with the Lions, can be a productive every-down end opposite Little on the right side. Hall registered a career-high 11½ sacks in '04, but he is a spunky performer known for disappearing for games at a time. He has a good nose for the ball but lacks great speed off the edge. Second-year pro Victor Adeyanju, a solid run-stopper who isn't much of a pass rusher, and Eric Moore provide depth outside. La'Roi Glover made some plays and provided veteran leadership at one starting tackle spot last season. But he is better-equipped as a change-of-pace rotational player good for



25 to 30 snaps a game at this stage of his career. Second-year pro Claude Wroten, a promising talent who was just so-so his rookie season, can be expected to share time with Glover. With former first-round pick Jimmy Kennedy woefully miscast as the starting nose tackle last season, '07 first-round pick Adam Carriker figures to have a good shot as the starter this season, even though his primary position was end in college. The Rams think the disruptive Carriker, whose specialty is his ability to defend the run, has enough size and power to excel in the interior.

**LINEBACKERS** The Rams believe 2006 free-agent addition Will Witherspoon's assets in pursuit, sideline-to-sideline speed, coverage and instincts far outweigh his size limitations at middle linebacker. He had some notable breakdowns in coverage against the likes of LaDainian Tomlinson and Tony Gonzalez, but he also made some game-saving plays early in the season and always seems to be where the action is. WLB Pisa Tinoisamoa, who signed a five-year contract extension last October, was plagued by injuries last season after never missing a game and leading the team in tackles the previous three years. He had a career-low 36 tackles after breaking both hands and suffering a dislocated elbow and was limited to tackling with only one healthy arm before being placed on injured reserve. SLB Brandon Chillar has a good combination of size and speed and improved noticeably last season, but he still struggles in open space against

quicker players. Free-agent addition Chris Draft, who started 16 games for the Panthers last season, provides quality depth at all three LB positions and could challenge Chillar for a starting role. Jon Alston is a tweener with some talent who might be considered as a "box" safety because of his strength, speed and ball skills. Raonall Smith is another tweener who adds versatility with his pass-rush ability in the "buck end" role.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** In 10 starts, first-round pick CB Tye Hill grew up before the team's eyes, steadily improving his ball skills and coverage as the 2006 season progressed. Hill doesn't back down despite his smallish stature, but he still needs work on his tackling. Fakhir Brown did a solid job as the other starting corner, providing a badly needed physical presence and enough strength to disrupt most routes. The Rams believe FS O.J. Atogwe was perhaps the team's most improved player from start to finish last season. He displayed good range and blitzing potential and impressive playmaking skills with three interceptions and six forced fumbles. SS Corey Chavous, who finished second in tackles behind Will Witherspoon, has good athleticism and provides a steadying influence with his experience and study habits. Rangy Ron Bartell emerged as a very productive nickel back down the stretch last season. Vying for the No. 3 safety spot are ex-Bear free-agent addition Todd Johnson and third-year

pro Jerome Carter. Two other free agents, former Niners No. 1 pick Mike Rumph and Lenny Walls, and speedy third-round pick Jonathan Wade will compete for the No. 4 CB spot.

## Special teams

Al Roberts, the team's fifth different special-teams coach this decade, will be entrusted with shoring up what has become a consistently weak unit in recent times. PK Jeff Wilkins shared the league lead in field goals made last season, and left-footed P Donnie Jones, who is 12 years younger than the departed Matt Turk, did a nice job for the Dolphins the last two seasons. But the team's coverage units continued to struggle, allowing three returns for TDs while scoring none themselves. The Rams hope the addition of veteran kick returner Dante Hall from the Chiefs will provide an upgrade. Travis Minor and Todd Johnson figure to spearhead the coverage units.

## Summary

More consistency will be the key for a Rams team that started and finished the 2006 campaign with a flourish, but struggled mightily from mid-October through mid-December, when it lost seven of eight games. The lackluster midseason slump triggered a blackout for the home finale — the first one since the team moved to St. Louis in 1995.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

		TEAM STATISTICS																	TOTALS
OPPONENT	WEEK	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10	W11	W12	W13	W14	W15	W16	W17	
	OPPONENT	DET	CHI	ARI	IND	ATL	SEA	PHI	NYJ	NE	SEA	CAR	ATL	IND	CHI	ARI	WASH	MIN	
Score	18-10	13-20	16-14	41-34	23-20	28-30	24-38	17-31	22-24	0-15	20-17	20-34	27-42	20-0	37-31	41-21			
Total net yards	320	265	364	427	327	366	412	452	299	111	349	394	433	251	579	416			5767
Rushing yards	125	118	63	106	118	59	101	115	108	31	140	107	101	148	197	168			1805
Passing yards	195	147	301	321	209	309	311	337	191	80	209	287	332	103	382	248			3962
Rushing plays	28	28	28	27	30	22	21	28	20	8	29	23	22	35	39	36			424
Sacks allowed	3	6	1	1	2	6	3	2	4	7	2	4	3	4	1	0			49
Had intercepted	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	1	0	0	0			8
Fumbles lost	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0			10
Yards penalized	94	40	25	66	78	72	20	67	58	40	35	126	91	56	30	62			960
Punts	3	5	3	4	5	5	5	4	3	9	5	3	6	6	6	4			76
		OPPONENT STATISTICS																	TOTALS
	OPPONENT	DET	CHI	ARI	IND	ATL	SEA	PHI	NYJ	NE	SEA	CAR	ATL	IND	CHI	ARI	WASH	MIN	
Time of poss.***	27:11	25:23	29:53	29:54	29:17	27:55	30:54	25:20	26:08	38:43	29:26	31:41	26:39	28:52	26:59	28:06			28:54
Total net yards	259	360	347	370	336	364	419	317	283	411	319	316	372	260	336	293			5362
Rushing yards	161	127	101	93	121	125	216	186	160	242	171	137	172	57	176	82			2327
Passing yards	98	233	246	277	215	239	203	131	123	169	148	179	200	203	160	211			3035
Rushing plays	25	33	28	21	26	28	35	32	26	43	31	37	34	18	38	22			477
Sacks allowed	4	0	1	2	2	4	1	2	6	3	0	1	0	4	0	4			34
Had intercepted	3	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	3	0	2			17
Fumbles lost	2	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	2	1	0			15
Yards penalized	30	20	52	70	41	65	43	23	16	80	34	107	86	75	58	35			835
Punts	4	4	3	3	4	4	3	6	4	5	4	3	3	3	4	7			67
		INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	TOTALS
	PLAYER	DET	CHI	ARI	IND	ATL	SEA	PHI	NYJ	NE	SEA	CAR	ATL	IND	CHI	ARI	WASH	MIN	
		RUSHING																	
Bulger	3-(-3)-0	1-(-1)-0	3-(-1)-0	1-(-1)-0	3-10-0			2-11-0	1-8-0			1-(-6)-0			1-0-0	2-27-0			18-44-0
Curtis					1-6-0			1-0-0							1-7-0				4-4-0
Davis		5-16-0		4-26-0	3-4-0			2-18-0	6-18-0	1-7-0	1-4-0	5-25-0	2-11-0		1-(-9)-0	3-29-0	1-2-0	4-4-0	40-177-0
To, Fisher	3-7-0		1-2-0			1-1-0	1-(-1)-0												6-9-0
K Harris																			3-9-0
Jackson	22-121-0	22-103-0	24-62-0	22-81-1	23-98-0	20-56-1	18-84-1	19-86-1	18-93-1	7-27-0	23-121-1	21-96-0	18-81-1	31-127-2	33-150-1	25-142-3			346-1528-13
Turk														2-19-0					2-19-0
		PASSING **																	
Bulger	18-34-0	19-34-0	21-31-0	26-42-0	18-28-0	26-39-1	27-40-0	31-42-0	26-40-1	19-34-1	23-34-1	27-45-3	34-55-1	11-22-0	25-38-0	19-30-0			370-588-8
	217-0	185-1	309-1	328-3	220-2	360-3	327-2	354-1	215-0	142-0	201-1	314-2	356-3	137-0	388-4	248-1			4301-24
		RECEIVING																	
Bruce	5-64-0	5-77-0	3-79-0	7-100-1	2-23-0	5-45-0	5-105-0	3-61-0	7-66-0	1-6-0	6-63-0	5-75-1	4-62-0	3-58-0	9-148-1	4-66-0			74-1098-3
Byrd															2-39-1				2-39-1
Curtis		3-13-0	1-7-0	2-25-0	3-21-1	2-52-0	7-79-1	7-59-1	3-22-0	1-10-0	3-41-1	1-18-0	4-77-0		1-18-0	2-39-0			40-479-4
Davis		1-2-0	1-4-0		1-10-0			2-15-0				1-11-0		4-37-0	1-1-0	1-10-1			12-90-1
To, Fisher	2-54-0		2-8-0	2-12-0	2-51-0	1-4-0	5-30-0												14-159-0
Hedgecock				1-1-0	1-1-0				1-7-0	1-5-0					1-6-0	1-6-0			7-29-0
Holt	7-80-0	5-30-1	8-120-1	6-102-1	3-40-1	8-154-3	5-48-0	3-50-0	7-73-0	7-68-0	4-30-0	7-115-1	6-75-2	4-59-0	4-54-0	9-90-0			93-1188-10
Jackson	4-19-0	2-21-0	3-59-0	6-65-0	3-20-0	7-40-0	3-55-0	13-133-0	6-40-0	7-30-0	9-71-0	9-69-0	10-58-1		6-102-1	2-24-1			90-806-3
Klopfenstein		2-34-0		2-23-1	1-24-0	2-37-0	1-3-0	1-9-0		1-18-0	1-12-0	4-31-0	4-31-0	1-4-0					20-226-1
McDonald		1-8-0	2-16-0		2-30-0	1-28-0	1-7-1	2-27-0	2-7-0	1-5-0			1-8-0						13-136-1
Walker			1-16-0												1-8-0	1-9-0	1-11-0	1-26-0	5-68-0

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.



**St. Louis Rams**

One Rams Way  
St. Louis, MO 63045  
314/982-7267  
Official Website: www.stlouisrams.com  
Stadium: Edward Jones Dome  
Capacity: 66,000  
Playing surface: FieldTurf  
2006 record: 8-8; Second in NFC West

Scott Linehan

**Chairman/Owner:** Georgia Frontiere; **Vice Chairman/Owner:** Stan Kroenke; **President:** John Shaw; **President/football operations:** Jay Zygmunt; **Vice president/player personnel:** Tony Sottili; **Director/player personnel:** Lawrence McCutcheon

**Head coach:** Scott Linehan

**Assistant coaches:** Brian Baker, defensive line; Paul Boudreau, offensive line; Jim Chaney, asst. offensive line; Mike Cox, defensive quality control/asst. defensive line; Todd Downing, asst. special teams/defensive assistant; Henry Ellard, wide receivers; Judd Garrett, tight ends; Randy Hanson, offensive quality control; Jim Haslett, defensive coordinator; Jeff Horton, special assistant/offense; Dana LeDuc, strength and conditioning; Ron Milus, asst. secondary; Wayne Moses, running backs; Ken Murphy, offensive quality control; Doug Nussmeier, quarterbacks; Greg Olson, offensive coordinator; Al Roberts, special teams; Willy Robinson, secondary; Brad Roll, asst. strength and conditioning; Rick Venturi, asst. head coach/linebackers.

**PROJECTED DEPTH CHART**

OFFENSE			
WR <b>81 HOLT</b>	17 Thompson	15 Hagans	Stanley*
OLT <b>78 PACE</b>	79 Steussie	Shackelford*	77 Strojny
OLG <b>66 SETTERSTROM</b>	72 Goldberg		
C <b>65 ROMBERG</b>	67 McCollum	Fry*	
ORG <b>68 INCIGNITO</b>	75 Terrell		
ORT <b>70 BARRON</b>	79 Steussie	64 Parquet	
TE <b>84 McMICHAEL</b>	82 Klopfenstein	86 Byrd	87 Walker
WR <b>80 BRUCE</b>	83 Bennett	89 Looker	D. Hall
QB <b>10 BULGER</b>	12 Frerotte	11 Fitzpatrick	Tate*
RB <b>39 S. JACKSON</b>	Leonard*	22 Minor	
FB <b>44 HEDGECOCK</b>	Leonard*		
DEFENSE			
DLE <b>91 LITTLE</b>	92 Moore	95 Tr. Johnson	
UT <b>97 GLOVER</b>	99 Wroten	Ryan*	71 Sandidge
NT <b>CARRIKER*</b>	73 Kennedy	Ryan*	K. Jackson*
DRE <b>96 J. HALL</b>	94 Adeyanju	92 Moore	
SLB <b>54 CHILLAR</b>	52 Draft	56 Smith	
MLB <b>51 WITHERSPOON</b>	59 McGarigle		
WLB <b>50 TINOISAMOA</b>	52 Draft	57 Alston	
LCB <b>26 HILL</b>	24 Bartell	31 Rumph	Wade*
RCB <b>34 BROWN</b>	27 Walls	Wade*	23 Butler
FS <b>21 ATOGWE</b>	24 Bartell	42 Carter	
SS <b>25 CHAVOUS</b>	35 To. Johnson		
SPECIALISTS			
P <b>5 JONES</b>			
PK <b>14 WILKINS</b>			
H <b>89 LOOKER</b>			
KR <b>D. HALL</b>	15 Hagans	33 Harris	
PR <b>D. HALL</b>	15 Hagans	89 Looker	
LS <b>45 MASSEY</b>	87 Walker		

\* Rookie

**RAMS ROSTER**

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
94	Adeyanju, Victor	DE	6-4	270	2	Indiana	12/9
32	Alexis, Rich	RB	6-0	213	3	Washington	1/0
57	Alston, Jon	LB	6-0	221	2	Stanford	3/0
49	Anelli, Mark	TE	6-3	265	2	Wisconsin	0/0
21	Atogwe, Oshiomogho	S	5-11	210	3	Stanford	16/16
	Barrett, Lamart	WR	6-0	191	R	North Carolina State	
70	Barron, Alex	OT	6-7	315	3	Florida State	16/16
24	Bartell, Ron	CB-S	6-1	200	3	Howard	16/0
83	Bennett, Drew	WR	6-5	206	7	UCLA	16/15
34	Brown, Fakhir	CB	5-11	192	8	Grambling	14/14
80	Bruce, Isaac	WR	6-0	188	14	Memphis	16/15
	Buches, Steve	TE	6-4	251	R	Pittsburgh	
10	Bulger, Marc	QB	6-3	212	7	West Virginia	16/16
23	Butler, Jerametrius	CB	5-10	185	7	Kansas State	6/0
86	Byrd, Dominique	TE	6-2	254	2	USC	5/0
	Carriker, Adam	DT-DE	6-6	292	R	Nebraska	
42	Carter, Jerome	S	5-11	219	3	Florida State	14/0
25	Chavous, Corey	S	6-1	208	10	Vanderbilt	16/16
54	Chillar, Brandon	LB	6-3	242	4	UCLA	16/15
52	Draft, Chris	LB	5-11	232	9	Stanford	16/16
	Dukes, Jeffrey	S	6-2	199	R	Alabama	
11	Fitzpatrick, Ryan	QB	6-2	221	3	Harvard	1/0
12	Frerotte, Gus	QB	6-3	233	14	Tulsa	1/0
	Fry, Dustin	C	6-2	326	R	Clemson	
97	Glover, La'Roi	DT	6-2	290	12	San Diego State	16/16
72	Goldberg, Adam	OG	6-7	310	5	Wyoming	16/2
15	Hagans, Marques	WR	5-10	205	1	Virginia	0/0
96	Hall, James	DE	6-2	280	8	Michigan	7/7
	Hall, Dante	RS-WR	5-8	187	8	Texas A&M	15/0
33	Harris, Kay-Jay	RB	6-0	229	2	West Virginia	7/0
44	Hedgecock, Madison	FB	6-3	266	3	North Carolina	16/9
26	Hill, Tye	CB	5-10	185	2	Clemson	16/10
81	Holt, Torry	WR	6-0	190	9	North Carolina State	16/16
68	Incognito, Richie	OG-C	6-3	305	3	Nebraska	16/16
	Jackson, Keith	DT	6-0	305	R	Arkansas	
39	Jackson, Steven	RB	6-2	231	4	Oregon State	16/16
35	Johnson, Todd	S	6-1	200	5	Florida	12/6
95	Johnson, Trevor	DE	6-4	260	4	Nebraska	1/0
5	Jones, Donnie	P	6-3	222	4	LSU	16/0
73	Kennedy, Jimmy	DT	6-4	325	5	Penn State	16/16
	Kirkland, Andre	S	6-1	205	R	Kent State	
82	Klopfenstein, Joe	TE	6-5	256	2	Colorado	16/16
	Lau, Brad	FB	6-0	237	R	Boise State	
20	Lay, Josh	CB	6-1	197	1	Pittsburgh	0/0
	Leonard, Brian	RB	6-1	226	R	Rutgers	
91	Little, Leonard	DE	6-3	263	10	Tennessee	16/16
89	Looker, Dane	WR	6-0	194	7	Washington	16/0
	Lovell, Kevin	PK	5-10	165	R	Cincinnati	
45	Massey, Chris	LS	6-0	245	6	Marshall	16/0
67	McCollum, Andy	C	6-4	300	14	Toledo	1/1
59	McGarigle, Tim	LB	6-0	238	1	Northwestern	0/0
	McLee, Kevin	LB	6-1	244	R	West Virginia	
84	McMichael, Randy	TE	6-3	255	6	Georgia	16/15
22	Minor, Travis	RB	5-10	203	7	Florida State	16/0
92	Moore, Eric	DE	6-4	268	3	Florida State	7/0
	Morton, Nate	WR	6-2	210	R	Wake Forest	
76	Pace, Orlando	OT	6-7	325	11	Ohio State	8/8
64	Parquet, Jeremy	OT	6-6	321	3	Southern Mississippi	0/0
65	Romberg, Brett	C	6-2	298	4	Miami (Fla.)	10/3
31	Rumph, Mike	CB	6-2	206	6	Miami (Fla.)	7/0
	Ryan, Clifton	DT-DE	6-3	310	R	Michigan State	
71	Sandidge, Tim	DT	6-1	300	1	Virginia Tech	0/0
66	Setterstrom, Mark	OG	6-4	314	2	Minnesota	7/6
	Shackelford, Ken	OT	6-5	322	R	Georgia	
56	Smith, Raonall	LB	6-2	245	6	Washington State	16/0
	Stanley, Derek	WR	5-9	172	R	Wisconsin-Whitewater	
79	Steussie, Todd	OG	6-6	310	14	California	16/15
77	Strojny, Drew	OT	6-7	305	1	Duke	0/0
	Tate, Drew	QB	5-11	200	R	Iowa	
75	Terrell, Claude	OG	6-2	330	3	New Mexico	0/0
	Thompson, David	OG	6-3	310	R	Massachusetts	
17	Thompson, Dominique	WR	5-11	205	2	William & Mary	0/0
50	Tinoisamoa, Pisa	LB	6-1	235	5	Hawaii	11/11
	Vinnett, Darius	CB	5-8	170	R	Arkansas	
	Wade, Jonathan	CB	5-10	195	R	Tennessee	
87	Walker, Aaron	TE	6-6	270	5	Florida	16/5
27	Walls, Lenny	CB	6-4	192	6	Boston College	16/2
36	Washington, John David	RB	5-9	208	1	Morehouse	0/0
14	Wilkins, Jeff	PK	6-2	205	14	Youngstown State	16/0
	Willis, Ryan	DE	6-3	270	R	LSU	
51	Witherspoon, Will	LB	6-1	234	6	Georgia	16/16
99	Wroten, Claude	DT	6-2	295	2	LSU	15/0

**2007 SCHEDULE**

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 9	Carolina	1 p.m.
Sept. 16	San Francisco	1 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Dallas	1 p.m.
Oct. 7	Arizona	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Baltimore	1 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Seattle	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 28	Cleveland	1 p.m.
Nov. 4	BYE	
Nov. 11	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Nov. 18	at San Francisco	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 25	Seattle	1 p.m.
Dec. 2	Atlanta	1 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Dec. 16	Green Bay	1 p.m.
Dec. 20	Pittsburgh	8:15 p.m.
Dec. 30	at Arizona	4:15 p.m.

**2006 RESULTS**

Points spread refers to St. Louis

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	Denver	(+3.5)	18-10
Sept. 17	at San Francisco	(-3)	13-20
Sept. 24	at Arizona	(+4.5)	16-14
Oct. 1	Detroit	(-5.5)	41-34
Oct. 8	at Green Bay	(-2.5)	23-20
Oct. 15	Seattle	(+3)	28-30
Oct. 22	BYE		
Oct. 29	at San Diego	(+9.5)	24-38
Nov. 5	Kansas City	(-3)	17-31
Nov. 12	at Seattle	(+3)	22-24
Nov. 19	at Carolina	(+6)	0-15
Nov. 26	San Francisco	(-4.5)	20-17
Dec. 3	Arizona	(-6)	20-34
Dec. 11	Chicago	(+6)	27-42
Dec. 17	at Oakland	(+3)	20-0
Dec. 24	Washington	(-2)	37-31*
Dec. 31	at Minnesota	(-2)	41-21

\* OVERTIME



ARIZONA

## CARDINALS



VIC MILTON

QB MATT LEINART

PREDICTED  
RECORD: **5-11** 4th place /  
NFC West

Say goodbye to the disappointing Dennis Green regime. Ken Whisenhunt, the Steelers' offensive coordinator the past three years, is taking over as Arizona's seventh full-time head coach since the team arrived in the desert in 1988.



Whisenhunt, who intends to continue calling plays like he did in Pittsburgh, has reason to be excited about a potentially lively offense featuring promising young QB Matt Leinart under center, lead back

Edgerrin James operating in a more run-oriented system and one of the league's top WR duos in Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin.

However, for the Cardinals to truly have a shot at only their second winning season since the Bidwills bolted from St. Louis, holdover defensive coordinator Clancy Pendergast needs to get much better play out of a unit that slipped to 29th in yards allowed in '06.

## Offense

Ken Whisenhunt and new coordinator Todd Haley hope to put together an offense

in the mold of the hard-nosed, physical units Whisenhunt coordinated in Pittsburgh, with the emphasis on a strong ground game. But Whisenhunt likes to distribute the ball around and was also known for regularly incorporating creative trick plays into the mix. It's worth noting that the Steelers were 39-15 (including playoffs) once Whisenhunt started calling the plays three years ago.

**QUARTERBACKS** ■ Matt Leinart showed impressive poise and polish from the get-go as a rookie starter last season and won three of his final four starts. His accuracy was good when given time, and his initially shaky footwork got better as the season wore on and with improved protection. Leinart displayed decent arm strength, but he must



improve his decision-making. He can be skittish in the pocket, and he dropped back too far in shotgun formations. Leinart hurt each shoulder once last year — his left (throwing) shoulder in Week 16 — and probably needs to bulk up a bit to protect that part of his body. The original plan was for Leinart to sit and watch veteran Kurt Warner as a rookie, but after a strong season-opening performance, Warner registered five interceptions, fumbled seven times and was sacked nine times in the next three games and was benched in favor of Leinart. Warner performed well in relief of an injured Leinart in the season finale, however, and shapes up as a smart, veteran backup who can still get the ball where it needs to go in a pinch.

**GRADE B**

**RUNNING BACKS** ■ Edgerrin James had a franchise-record 337 carries in his first season as a Cardinal and rushed for 1,159 yards, the largest total of any Arizona back since the team's move to the desert. He started off as a major disappointment before settling into a much-improved groove the final seven games behind an offensive line that finally managed to develop some cohesiveness. James didn't have his first 100-yard game until Week 13 but finished the season with three 100-yard efforts in the last five games. In that same span, though, he was seldom employed as a receiver out of the backfield, despite being considered a good pass-catching back in his days with the Colts. After signing a new three-year contract, Marcel Shipp should get more of an opportunity to carry the ball in relief of James. Shipp had only 17 carries last season but scored four of the team's 12 rushing TDs. Undersized J.J. Arrington failed to live up to expectations for the second straight year, although his opportunities were limited behind James. Free-agent addition Terrelle Smith looks like a good fit for the lead-blocking FB role new head coach Ken Whisenhunt believes is sorely needed. In seven seasons with the Saints and Browns, Smith, who went to college at Arizona State, blocked for a 1,000-yard rusher five times. Holdover Obafemi Ayanbadejo offers versatility at fullback.

**RECEIVERS** ■ Both Larry Fitzgerald and Anquan Boldin are big, strong receivers. Neither of them has blazing speed, but they are both adept at outmuscling most defensive backs. After leading the league in total catches and in receptions of 20 yards or longer the previous season, Fitzgerald's numbers were down in 2006 after missing three games with a hamstring injury that adversely affected his chemistry with Matt Leinart. Their connection improved down the stretch, with Fitzgerald catching four of his six TD passes in the last five games. Boldin, considered the team's heart and soul, has different skills than Fitzgerald. He excels at running after the catch, breaking tackles and eluding defenders, and his teammates feed off his passion when he makes a catch and breaks tackle after tackle. Boldin, often compared to the Steelers'

**PFW PROJECTIONS**

**OFFENSIVE MVP**  
WR **ANQUAN BOLDIN**

**DEFENSIVE MVP**  
SS **ADRIAN WILSON**

**BREAKTHROUGH PLAYER**  
ORG **DEUCE LUTUI**

Lutui is a local product who is very driven to succeed in the desert. He looks like a solid fit in Ken Whisenhunt's proposed offense.

**POSITION BATTLE**  
RCB:  
**RODERICK HOOD vs. ERIC GREEN**

Hood is hungry to prove he can be a starter after being a backup with the Eagles. Improved coaching could help Green's cause.

**COMINGS AND GOINGS**

**KEY VETERAN ARRIVALS**  
DE Rodney Bailey, OL Mike Gandy, S Terrence Holt, CB Roderick Hood, C Al Johnson, WR Sean Morey, FB Terrelle Smith.

**KEY VETERAN DEPARTURES**  
OT Leonard Davis, OG Chris Liwienski, CB David Macklin, QB John Navarre, OL-TE Fred Wakefield.

**2007 DRAFT PICKS**

RD	PLAYER	POS	COLLEGE	PICK
1	Levi Brown	OT	Penn State	5
2	Alan Branch	DT	Michigan	33
3	Buster Davis	ILB	Florida State	69
5	Steve Breaston	WR	Michigan	142
7	Ben Patrick	TE	Delaware	215



Hines Ward as a receiver, is a worthy candidate in the trick-play department Whisenhunt specializes in. He played some quarterback in college and can throw the ball well. Third receiver Bryant Johnson's best statistical season was marred by multiple dropped passes. But when the Cardinals' run game started improving and opposing safeties began moving up in the box, Johnson benefited more than any other receiver with some big gains (career-high 18.5-yard average in '06). The only tight end on the roster with any experience is Leonard Pope, the team's third-round pick last season. Pope underachieved as a rookie and needs to improve his work ethic and blocking. He's got great size but struggles in the run game. Seventh-round pick Ben Patrick will back him up.

**OFFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ The biggest key to the Cardinals' line finally coming together last season (there were six different combinations in the first 10 games) was when Reggie Wells, the team's most consistent blocker, moved from left guard to right tackle and did an admirable job protecting

Matt Leinart's blind side in place of the struggling Oliver Ross. However, Wells began the offseason at left guard. Heading into camp, first-round pick Levi Brown, a big, physical mauler who perfectly fits new O-line coach Russ Grimm's style of play, is the best bet to start at right tackle. Veteran free-agent addition Mike Gandy, who split time at left tackle and left guard in 16 starts for the Bills last season, is the favorite to replace the departed Leonard Davis at left tackle. Ross, who was previously a productive player for Grimm in Pittsburgh, could also get a good shot at the OLT position. Deuce Lutui, drafted one round behind fellow Trojan Leinart, is a local product who looks like a long-term keeper at right guard, but he still has shortcomings as a pass blocker. At center, ex-Cowboy Al Johnson appears to have an edge over incumbent Nick Leckey. Although considered undersized with a tendency for getting overpowered by big 3-4 nose tackles, Johnson is bigger than Leckey. The three Cardinals coaches with Cowboys ties, led by offensive coordinator Todd Haley, like Johnson's smarts and are quite familiar with his skills. Milford Brown, who started at both right and left guard last season, and '07 free-agent addition Qasim Mitchell add depth.

## Defense

When Ken Whisenhunt chose to retain coordinator Clancy Pendergast, he indicated the defense would remain a 4-3, but it appears a Steelers-like 3-4 system is in the offing, based on early offseason minicamp activity. In any event, multiple looks, which are a Pendergast staple, are guaranteed to keep offenses on their toes.

**DEFENSIVE LINEMEN** ■ A significant change up front will be the transfer of Darnell Dockett from the starting "under" tackle role he filled the last three seasons to left end in the team's anticipated 3-4 scheme. With his knack for quickly breaking through gaps, Dockett can be a consistently disruptive force with great intensity when the spirit moves him, but he still has occasional ill-timed lapses. The competition at nose tackle will be spirited, with incumbent Kendrick Clancy, second-round pick Alan Branch and Gabe Watson battling for playing time. Clancy, who had ankle problems and missed five games last season, is a solid but unspectacular two-down run defender who does a decent job clogging the middle and filling gaps. Branch is a big clogger whose draft value dropped due to medical concerns regarding shin fractures. At 6-3, 340 pounds, Watson, the team's fourth-round pick last season, is another space eater with the potential to be a large run-stuffing force inside. He was inactive the first four games, partly due to a calf injury, and needs to improve his work ethic. Fourth-year pro Antonio Smith, who has had his moments as a pass rusher, heads into the team's minicamps as the starting right end but is sure to be challenged. Chris Cooper, who did a good job as a reserve last season, free-agent additions Rodney Bailey,



Joe Tafoya and Ross Kolodziej, and 2006 sixth-round pick Jonathan Lewis provide depth.

**LINEBACKERS** ■ Last year's starting defensive ends, Bertrand Berry and Chike Okefor, have become "quasi-end/linebackers," in the words of Ken Whisenhunt. Berry, who has missed prolonged stretches of the last two seasons with injuries, is expected to be pushed hard at one of the OLB spots by former first-round pick Calvin Pace. Berry is a no-nonsense grinder who didn't hesitate to call out some of his teammates for their poor work ethic and attitude on his weekly radio show prior to the team's bye week in early November. Okefor tied his career high with 8½ sacks in '06 and finished

very strong after registering only one sack in the first nine games. After Berry was lost for the season, the Cardinals frequently shifted Okefor around, occasionally even lining him up in a two-point stance, which opened up a lot more pass-rush situations. Pace, who strictly played defensive end his first three seasons, showed flashes on the strong side in '06 replacing the injured Karlos Dansby. Following a breakout season in '05, Dansby was hindered in '06 by thumb, toe and hip injuries but finished strong after missing the entire preseason, registering a career-high eight sacks. He is being being moved inside, where his ability to clog up passing lanes in the middle of the field has Whisenhunt excited. Gerald Hayes, who signed a

five-year contract extension last November, will start inside next to Dansby. After missing all of the previous season due to reconstructive surgery on his left knee, Hayes rarely left the field last season and led the team in tackles, providing a strong, physical presence. Feisty, undersized third-round pick Buster Davis offers depth inside, while Monty Beisel provides depth at every LB spot.

**DEFENSIVE BACKS** ■ Few defenders are as diverse as starting SS Adrian Wilson, whose first Pro Bowl berth last season was long overdue. In addition to staying back in traditional two-deep coverage, he can rush from the end position, line up as a linebacker and match up against the slot receiver as a nickel back, playing closer to the line of scrimmage. With his versatility and ability to stay on the field on every down, he can really get inside an offense's head.

Wilson has also become much more of a leader in the locker room. The starting free safety will probably be ex-Lion Terrence Holt, who was a teammate of Wilson's at North Carolina State, with promising third-year pro Aaron Francisco, who did a nice job in nickel-coverage situations last season after being promoted from the practice squad, also expected to get plenty of playing time. Holt has good smarts and awareness and is a leader on the field, but he lacks top-end speed and is only adequate in man coverage. Francisco has good size, speed, footwork and hitting ability and is

seldom out of position. The Cardinals hope new DB coach Teryl Austin will be able to help starting LCB Antrel Rolle, who had too many breakdowns and penalties last season but wasn't helped any by mediocre coaching. Ex-Eagle Roderick Hood and Eric Green, who struggled last season along with Rolle, will battle for the starting RCB job. Hood has solid cover skills and doesn't have a lot of wasted motion. At the very least, he appears to be an ideal fit as the No. 3 corner. CBs Matt Ware and free-agent addition Ralph Brown and S Hanik Milligan provide depth.

## Special teams

PK Neil Rackers came down to earth after an outstanding '05 campaign. He had to overcome mechanical issues that started when he hurt the calf in his plant leg, but he is still considered one of the league's better placement specialists. Veteran P Scott Player and LS Nate Hodel (Rackers' college teammate at Illinois) are also rock-solid. Roderick Hood, J.J. Arrington, and fifth-round pick Steve Breaston figure in the return mix. Aaron Francisco, Obafemi Ayanbadejo, Marcel Shipp, Hanik Milligan and Sean Morey should offer sturdy coverage.

## Summary

Although they have their share of issues, primarily up front on both sides of the ball, the Cardinals have enough talent to make some noise in the NFC West, where they finished with a division-best 4-2 record in 2006.

## GAME-BY-GAME STATISTICS

		TEAM STATISTICS																TOTALS	
OPPONENT	WK 1	WK 2	WK 3	WK 4	WK 5	WK 6	WK 7	WK 8	WK 9	WK 10	WK 11	WK 12	WK 13	WK 14	WK 15	WK 16	WK 17		
	SEA	SEA	STL	ARI	ARI	CHI	CHI	ARI	ARI	DAL	DET	MINN	STL	SEA	DEN	SEA	SEA		
Score	34-27	10-21	14-16	10-32	20-23	23-24	9-22	14-31	10-27	17-10	26-31	34-20	27-21	20-37	26-20	20-27			
Total net yards	367	256	347	187	298	286	224	218	295	338	412	316	345	295	372	444	5000		
Rushing yards	84	65	101	26	76	66	50	86	86	110	17	137	113	100	123	96	1338		
Passing yards	283	191	246	161	222	220	174	132	209	228	395	179	232	195	249	346	3662		
Rushing plays	29	20	28	24	26	38	20	25	21	29	6	37	33	20	41	22	419		
Sacks allowed	3	5	1	4	4	1	3	4	1	1	1	1	0	3	2	1	35		
Had intercepted	0	1	3	2	1	0	2	1	2	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	17		
Fumbles lost	1	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	1	13		
Yards penalized	85	66	52	19	50	65	25	68	35	34	64	107	77	52	45	93	937		
Punts	4	6	3	5	8	8	4	6	3	5	0	3	4	3	2	4	68		
		OPPONENT STATISTICS																	
Time of poss.***	24:58	31:53	30:07	31:26	29:31	20:17	37:01	33:39	32:15	29:17	36:32	28:19	25:21	33:52	22:20	33:32	30:01		
Total net yards	393	341	364	405	301	168	395	383	434	281	412	394	348	362	223	387	5591		
Rushing yards	107	146	63	262	39	38	137	203	126	68	157	107	120	106	49	169	1897		
Passing yards	286	195	301	143	262	130	258	180	308	213	255	287	228	256	174	218	3694		
Rushing plays	18	36	28	40	22	16	37	39	34	20	33	23	29	38	12	33	458		
Sacks allowed	1	3	1	2	3	2	5	0	0	4	2	4	3	1	4	3	38		
Had intercepted	0	2	0	1	0	4	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	1	1	1	16		
Fumbles lost	2	0	2	0	2	2	3	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	0	17		
Yards penalized	62	73	25	40	49	50	70	65	69	28	63	126	40	5	35	15	815		
Punts	4	5	3	2	6	6	3	2	2	5	5	3	4	1	4	3	58		
		INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS *																	
		RUSHING																	
Arrington	2-11-0			1-(2)-0		2-11-0		1-3-0		1-0-0		1-2-0		4-1-0	2-(3)-0	1-(2)-0	1-3-0	14-19-0	
Ayanbadejo														1-3-0	1-11-0	1-4-0	4-14-0	9-37-0	
James	26-73-1	18-64-0	24-94-1	20-41-0	24-71-0	36-55-0	13-34-0	24-84-1	15-68-0	22-96-0	4-15-0	26-115-0	26-115-1	14-63-1	29-105-0	16-66-1	337-1159-6		
Leinart				1-(7)-0	1-4-0		3-5-0	1-2-0	4-18-1	6-7-1	1-0-0			2-(3)-0	3-23-0		22-49-2		
Shipp							1-(1)-0		1-0-0	1-7-0		7-21-3	2-1-0			5-13-1	17-41-4		
Warner	1-0-0	2-1-0	3-10-0	2-(6)-0												5-(2)-0	13-3-0		
		PASSING **																	
Leinart				6-9-1	22-35-1	24-42-0	13-32-2	14-35-1	20-38-2	19-29-0	31-51-2	15-24-0	21-34-1	20-35-2	9-13-0		214-377-12		
Warner	23-37-0	24-38-1	19-28-3	11-20-1	253-2	232-2	203-0	157-1	216-0	233-1	405-1	186-1	232-2	214-0	162-1	22-32-0	108-168-5		
	301-3	231-1	256-1	128-0											105-0	356-1	1377-6		
		RECEIVING																	
Arrington						2-22-0	2-8-0		1-4-0		1-1-0		1-4-0		1-19-0		8-58-0		
Ayanbadejo		2-17-0				2-9-0	2-16-0	1-7-0				2-40-0	2-7-0	2-10-0	1-7-0	3-26-0	17-139-0		
Bergin	2-18-1	2-17-0		1-4-0						5-30-0	2-10-0	3-32-0					15-111-1		
Boldin	4-62-1	6-62-0	10-129-0	4-42-0	4-71-1	12-136-1	4-59-0	4-47-0	2-53-0	5-87-0	9-140-1	2-32-0	4-47-0	5-60-0	4-64-0	4-112-0	83-1203-4		
Fitzgerald	9-133-0	4-52-0	6-65-1	4-71-0	2-15-1				6-80-0	2-30-0	11-172-0	5-46-1	7-79-1	5-77-0	4-93-1	4-33-1	69-948-6		
James	3-13-0	7-33-0	1-5-0	5-31-0	6-44-0	1-7-0	1-4-0	3-25-0	2-11-0	2-16-0	2-10-0		2-6-0	2-9-0	1-3-0		38-217-0		
Bry Johnson	2-51-0	1-40-1	1-54-0		6-82-0	2-17-1	3-87-0	1-9-0	2-24-0	4-47-1	4-48-0	2-38-0	3-81-1	2-33-0	4-53-0	3-76-0	40-740-4		
Pope	1-9-0			2-32-0		1-9-0		1-22-0	1-7-0	1-2-0	1-2-0	2-20-0	1-3-0	2-11-0	1-4-0	2-40-0	16-161-0		
Shipp			1-3-0						1-7-0	2-32-0					1-5-0	1-13-0	6-60-0		
Walters	2-15-1	2-10-0		1-2-0	2-32-0	4-25-0	2-38-0	5-54-1		1-9-0		1-5-0	1-5-0	2-14-0		23-209-2			

\* Doesn't include all players. \*\* Passing stats include completions, attempts, interceptions, yards and touchdowns. \*\*\* Time of possession for OT games is prorated for 60-minute game.





## Arizona Cardinals

8701 South Hardy Drive  
Tempe, AZ 85284  
602/379-0101  
Official Website: www.azcardinals.com  
Stadium: University of Phoenix Stadium  
Capacity: 63,400  
Playing surface: Grass  
2006 record: 5-11; Fourth in NFC West

President: William V. Bidwill; V.P. and general counsel: Michael J. Bidwill; Vice president of football operations: Rod Graves

Head coach: Ken Whisenhunt

Assistant coaches: Ron Aiken, defensive line; Teryl Austin, defensive backs; Maurice Carthon, running backs; Rick Courtright, asst. defensive backs; Billy Davis, linebackers; Russ Grimm, asst. head coach/offensive line; Todd Haley, offensive coordinator; Freddie Kitchens, tight ends; John Lott, strength and conditioning; Mike Miller, wide receivers; Clancy Pendergast, defensive coordinator; Matt Raich, defensive quality control; Jeff Rutledge, quarterbacks; Kevin Spencer, special teams; Keith Vulgamott, asst. strength and conditioning; Detric Ward, offensive quality control.

## PROJECTED DEPTH CHART

## OFFENSE

SE <b>81 BOLDIN</b>	87 Morey	19 McCoy	84 Lee
OLT <b>69 GANDY</b>	79 Ross	73 Mitchell	72 Gorin
OLG <b>74 WELLS</b>	67 M. Brown		
C <b>50 A. JOHNSON</b>	60 Leckey		
ORG <b>76 LUTUI</b>	61 E. Brown		
ORT <b>75 L. BROWN*</b>	69 Gandy	72 Gorin	
TE <b>82 POPE</b>	89 Patrick*	83 Bienemann	85 Bronson
FL <b>11 FITZGERALD</b>	80 Bry. Johnson	18 Breaston*	
QB <b>7 LEINART</b>	13 Warner	9 Boyd	
RB <b>32 JAMES</b>	31 Shipp	28 Arrington	
FB <b>45 T. SMITH</b>	30 Ayanbadejo	44 Schable	

## DEFENSE

DE <b>90 DOCKETT</b>	93 Cooper	71 Tafoya	
NT <b>70 CLANCY</b>	78 Branch*	98 Watson	96 Kolodziej
DRE <b>94 A. SMITH</b>	91 Bailey	78 Branch*	
LOLB <b>56 OKEAFOR</b>	52 Beisel		
LILB <b>58 DANSBY</b>	53 Davis*	59 Bra. Johnson	
RILB <b>54 HAYES</b>	52 Beisel		
ROLB <b>92 BERRY</b>	97 Pace	55 Blackstock	
LCB <b>21 ROLLE</b>	22 Ware	20 R. Brown	23 Hunter
RCB <b>26 HOOD</b>	25 Green	29 Wyatt	
SS <b>24 WILSON</b>	47 Francisco	37 Milligan	
FS <b>42 HOLT</b>	47 Francisco		

## SPECIALISTS

P <b>10 PLAYER</b>			
PK <b>1 RACKERS</b>			
H <b>10 PLAYER</b>			
PR <b>26 HOOD</b>	80 Bry. Johnson	18 Breaston*	
KR <b>28 ARRINGTON</b>	18 Breaston*	15 Spurlock	
LS <b>48 HOEL</b>			

\* Rookie

## 2007 SCHEDULE

All times Eastern

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 10	at San Francisco	10:15 p.m.
Sept. 16	Seattle	4:05 p.m.
Sept. 23	at Baltimore	1 p.m.
Sept. 30	Pittsburgh	4:15 p.m.
Oct. 7	at St. Louis	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	Carolina	4:05 p.m.
Oct. 21	at Washington	1 p.m.
Oct. 28	BYE	
Nov. 4	at Tampa Bay	1 p.m.
Nov. 11	Detroit	4:15 p.m.
Nov. 18	at Cincinnati	1 p.m.
Nov. 25	San Francisco	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 2	Cleveland	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 9	at Seattle	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 16	at New Orleans	1 p.m.
Dec. 23	Atlanta	4:05 p.m.
Dec. 30	St. Louis	4:15 p.m.

## 2006 RESULTS

Points spread refers to Arizona

DATE	OPPONENT	SPREAD	SCORE
Sept. 10	San Francisco	(-9)	34-27
Sept. 17	At Seattle	(+7)	10-21
Sept. 24	St. Louis	(-4.5)	14-16
Oct. 1	At Atlanta	(+7.5)	10-32
Oct. 8	Kansas City	(+4)	20-23
Oct. 16	Chicago	(+12.5)	23-24
Oct. 22	At Oakland	(-3)	9-22
Oct. 29	At Green Bay	(+4)	14-31
Nov. 5	BYE		
Nov. 12	Dallas	(+6.5)	10-27
Nov. 19	Detroit	(-2.5)	17-10
Nov. 26	At Minnesota	(+7)	26-31
Dec. 3	At St. Louis	(+6)	34-20
Dec. 10	Seattle	(+3)	27-21
Dec. 17	Denver	(+3)	20-37
Dec. 24	At San Francisco	(+3.5)	26-20
Dec. 31	At San Diego	(+14)	20-27

## CARDINALS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POS.	HT.	WT.	EXP.	COLLEGE	GP/GS
27	Adams, Michael	CB	5-8	178	R	Louisiana-Lafayette	
28	Arrington, J.J.	RB	5-9	218	3	California	16/0
30	Ayanbadejo, Obafemi	FB	6-2	230	9	San Diego State	14/0
91	Bailey, Rodney	DE	6-3	305	7	Ohio State	12/6
41	Bain, Travarous	CB	6-0	175	R	Hampton	
33	Baylark, Steve	RB	6-0	225	R	Massachusetts	
52	Beisel, Monty	LB	6-3	240	7	Kansas State	8/2
92	Berry, Bertrand	LB-DE	6-3	270	10	Notre Dame	10/10
83	Bienemann, Troy	TE	6-5	242	1	Washington State	0/0
55	Blackstock, Darryl	LB	6-3	240	3	Virginia	16/1
62	Blagman, Ray	DT	6-2	321	R	Connecticut	
81	Boldin, Anquan	WR	6-1	223	5	Florida State	16/16
9	Boyd, Shane	QB	6-1	232	1	Kentucky	0/0
78	Branch, Alan	DT	6-5	334	R	Michigan	
18	Breaston, Steve	WR	6-0	193	R	Michigan	
85	Bronson, John	TE	6-3	275	3	Penn State	2/0
61	Brown, Elton	OG	6-5	340	3	Virginia	0/0
75	Brown, Levi	OT	6-5	323	R	Penn State	
67	Brown, Milford	OG	6-5	330	6	Florida State	13/12
20	Brown, Ralph	CB	5-10	185	8	Nebraska	16/4
46	Castille, Tim	FB	5-11	234	R	Alabama	
70	Clancy, Kendrick	DT	6-1	305	8	Mississippi	11/11
93	Cooper, Chris	DE	6-5	285	6	Nebraska-Omaha	13/0
58	Dansby, Karlos	LB	6-4	240	4	Auburn	14/10
53	Davis, Buster	LB	5-9	239	R	Florida State	
90	Dockett, Darnell	DE	6-4	290	4	Florida State	16/16
64	Downing, Tim	OG	6-4	305	R	Ohio State	
11	Fitzgerald, Larry	WR	6-3	226	4	Pittsburgh	13/13
47	Francisco, Aaron	S	6-2	212	3	BYU	16/2
69	Gandy, Mike	OT-OG	6-4	310	7	Notre Dame	16/16
72	Gorin, Brandon	OT	6-6	308	6	Purdue	0/0
25	Green, Eric	CB	5-11	194	3	Virginia Tech	15/8
43	Gulley, Will	FS	6-3	220	R	Houston	
66	Hameister-Ries, Jon	OG	6-6	308	R	Tulsa	
54	Hayes, Gerald	LB	6-1	253	5	Pittsburgh	14/14
48	Hodel, Nathan	LS	6-2	242	6	Illinois	16/0
57	Holloway, David	LB	6-2	230	R	Maryland	
42	Holt, Terrence	S	6-2	208	5	North Carolina State	16/15
26	Hood, Roderick	CB	5-11	196	5	Auburn	10/4
23	Hunter, Darrell	CB	6-1	206	2	Miami (Ohio)	3/0
32	James, Edgerrin	RB	6-0	220	9	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
50	Johnson, Al	C	6-5	311	5	Wisconsin	16/0
59	Johnson, Brandon	LB	6-5	224	2	Louisville	3/0
65	Johnson, Brian	OG	6-4	307	R	LSU	
80	Johnson, Bryant	WR	6-3	216	5	Penn State	16/8
38	Keeler, Brandon	S	6-3	215	R	Eastern Washington	
96	Kolodziej, Ross	DT	6-3	292	7	Wisconsin	12/5
12	Korrod, Toby	QB	6-3	233	R	Central Missouri	
60	Leckey, Nick	C-OG	6-3	291	4	Kansas State	14/11
84	Lee, Greg	WR	6-1	201	1	Pittsburgh	0/0
7	Leinart, Matt	QB	6-5	230	2	USC	12/11
95	Lewis, Jonathan	DT	6-1	312	2	Virginia Tech	4/0
76	Lutui, Deuce	OG	6-4	338	2	USC	15/9
19	McCoy, LeRon	WR	6-1	219	3	Indiana (Pa.)	0/0
37	Milligan, Hanik	S	6-3	200	5	Houston	16/0
73	Mitchell, Qasim	OT	6-5	347	4	North Carolina A&T	0/0
87	Morey, Sean	WR	5-11	200	6	Brown	16/0
56	Okeafor, Chike	LB-DE	6-5	265	9	Purdue	16/15
97	Pace, Calvin	LB-DE	6-4	272	5	Wake Forest	16/5
89	Patrick, Ben	TE	6-3	252	R	Delaware	
10	Player, Scott	P	6-1	206	10	Florida State	16/0
82	Pope, Leonard	TE	6-8	265	2	Georgia	16/6
86	Prall, Evan	WR	5-11	185	R	East Stroudsburg (Pa.)	
1	Rackers, Neil	PK	6-1	212	8	Illinois	16/0
21	Rolle, Antrel	CB	6-0	208	3	Miami (Fla.)	16/16
79	Ross, Oliver	OT	6-4	327	9	Iowa State	11/5
44	Schable, A.J.	FB	6-3	281	2	South Dakota	11/0
2	Schmitt, Ricky	P-PK	6-2	192	R	Shepherd	
63	Sendlein, Lyle	C	6-2	305	R	Texas	
31	Shipp, Marcel	RB	5-11	232	7	Massachusetts	15/0
49	Shor, Alex	TE	6-7	250	1	Syracuse	0/0
94	Smith, Antonio	DE	6-4	280	4	Oklahoma State	16/8
45	Smith, Terrelle	FB	6-0	246	8	Arizona State	16/8
34	Snow, Brandon	FB	6-0	242	R	Penn State	
15	Spurlock, Micheal	RS	5-10	214	2	Mississippi	1/0
71	Tafoya, Joe	DE	6-4	265	7	Arizona	13/0
51	Togafau, Pago	LB	5-10	210	R	Idaho State	
17	Trannon, Matt	WR	6-6	235	R	Michigan State	
68	Vallejo, Elliot	WR	6-7	315	R	California-Davis	
36	Vercher, Roshon	FB	5-11	245	R	Fresno State	
22	Ware, Matt	CB	6-2	210	4	UCLA	14/1
13	Warner, Kurt	QB	6-2	222	10	Northern Iowa	6/5
14	Watkins, Todd	WR	6-2	191	1	BYU	0/0
98	Watson, Gabe	DT	6-3	340	2	Michigan	12/5
74	Wells, Reggie	OG	6-4	318	5	Clarion	16/16
24	Wilson, Adrian	S	6-3	230	7	North Carolina State	16/16
29	Wyatt, Justin	CB	5-9	193	1	USC	0/0



## AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
New England	12	4	0	.750	385	237	5-3	7-1	4-2	8-4	9-7
New York Jets	10	6	0	.625	316	295	4-4	6-2	4-2	7-5	11-5
Buffalo	7	9	0	.438	300	311	4-4	3-5	3-3	5-7	10-6
Miami	6	10	0	.375	260	283	4-4	2-6	1-5	3-9	6-10
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
Baltimore	13	3	0	.813	353	201	7-1	6-2	5-1	10-2	10-6
Cincinnati	8	8	0	.500	373	331	4-4	4-4	4-2	6-6	8-7-1
Pittsburgh	8	8	0	.500	353	315	5-3	3-5	3-3	5-7	7-8-1
Cleveland	4	12	0	.250	238	356	2-6	2-6	0-6	3-9	7-8-1
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
Indianapolis	12	4	0	.750	427	360	8-0	4-4	3-3	9-3	8-8
Tennessee	8	8	0	.500	324	400	4-4	4-4	4-2	5-7	11-5
Jacksonville	8	8	0	.500	371	274	6-2	2-6	2-4	5-7	8-8
Houston	6	10	0	.375	267	366	4-4	2-6	3-3	6-6	7-9
WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
San Diego	14	2	0	.875	492	303	8-0	6-2	5-1	10-2	9-7
Kansas City	9	7	0	.563	331	315	6-2	3-5	4-2	5-7	8-8
Denver	9	7	0	.563	319	305	4-4	5-3	3-3	8-4	5-11
Oakland	2	14	0	.125	168	332	2-6	0-8	0-6	1-11	6-10

## NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
Philadelphia	10	6	0	.625	398	328	5-3	5-3	5-1	9-3	8-7-1
Dallas	9	7	0	.563	425	350	4-4	5-3	2-4	6-6	8-7-1
New York Giants	8	8	0	.500	355	362	3-5	5-3	4-2	7-5	7-8-1
Washington	5	11	0	.313	307	376	3-5	2-6	1-5	3-9	6-9-1
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
Chicago	13	3	0	.813	427	255	6-2	7-1	5-1	11-1	10-6
Green Bay	8	8	0	.500	301	366	3-5	5-3	5-1	7-5	7-8-1
Minnesota	6	10	0	.375	282	327	3-5	3-5	2-4	6-6	7-9
Detroit	3	13	0	.188	305	398	2-6	1-7	0-6	2-10	6-10
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
New Orleans	10	6	0	.625	413	322	4-4	6-2	4-2	9-3	10-6
Carolina	8	8	0	.500	270	305	4-4	4-4	5-1	6-6	6-9-1
Atlanta	7	9	0	.438	292	328	3-5	4-4	3-3	5-7	7-8-1
Tampa Bay	4	12	0	.250	211	353	3-5	1-7	0-6	2-10	6-9-1
WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	DIV.	CONF.	ATS
Seattle	9	7	0	.563	335	341	5-3	4-4	3-3	7-5	6-9-1
St. Louis	8	8	0	.500	367	381	4-4	4-4	2-4	6-6	9-7
San Francisco	7	9	0	.438	298	412	4-4	3-5	3-3	5-7	9-7
Arizona	5	11	0	.313	314	389	3-5	2-6	4-2	5-7	8-8

## POSTSEASON RESULTS

## Wild-card playoffs

Indianapolis 23, Kansas City 8  
 Seattle 21, Dallas 20  
 New England 37, N.Y. Jets 16  
 Philadelphia 23, N.Y. Giants 20

## Divisional playoffs

Indianapolis 15, Baltimore 6  
 New Orleans 27, Philadelphia 24  
 Chicago 27, Seattle 24 OT  
 New England 24, San Diego 21

## Conference championships

Indianapolis 38, New England 34  
 Chicago 39, New Orleans 14  
**Super Bowl XLI**  
 Indianapolis 29, Chicago 17



## TEAM EFFICIENCY

	OFFENSE			
	OFF PLAYS	RUSH AVG	PASS AVG	OFF AVG
1. Phil.	988	4.77	7.20	6.18
2. Ind.	1011	4.01	7.53	6.00
3. N.O.	1075	3.73	7.47	5.83
4. S.D.	1016	4.94	6.60	5.75
5. Dall.	1015	4.10	7.06	5.69
6. Pitt.	1041	4.25	6.53	5.50
7. Cin.	994	3.74	6.86	5.50
8. Jax.	989	4.95	6.05	5.48
9. St.L.	1065	4.26	6.18	5.42
10. Wash.	979	4.52	6.19	5.36
11. Atl.	1000	5.47	5.12	5.31
12. S.F.	918	4.95	5.61	5.29
13. N.Y.G.	1003	4.74	5.58	5.20
14. Det.	963	3.71	5.80	5.14
15. K.C.	1004	4.18	6.11	5.12
16. Ten.	945	4.72	5.45	5.09
17. N.E.	1055	3.95	6.12	5.09
18. Den.	973	4.41	5.77	5.09
19. G.B.	1085	3.86	5.80	5.03
20. Ariz.	999	3.19	6.31	5.01
21. Chi.	1042	3.81	6.09	4.99
22. Balt.	1017	3.44	6.35	4.99
23. Car.	994	3.92	5.72	4.95
24. N.Y.J.	1013	3.54	6.04	4.83
25. Minn.	1025	4.12	5.36	4.82
26. Mia.	1034	4.16	5.20	4.80
27. Sea.	1045	3.97	5.44	4.76
28. Buff.	898	3.70	5.69	4.76
29. Hou.	955	3.91	5.30	4.68
30. Clev.	938	3.59	5.12	4.51
31. T.B.	972	3.77	4.93	4.45
32. Oak.	949	3.86	4.36	4.15

	DEFENSE			
	DEF PLAYS	RUSH AVG	PASS AVG	DEF AVG
1. Balt.	936	3.31	5.29	4.51
2. Chi.	1023	3.96	5.02	4.60
3. Mia.	1005	3.51	5.53	4.60
4. Oak.	986	3.96	5.43	4.62
5. Jax.	978	3.48	5.52	4.64
6. Car.	990	3.87	5.55	4.78
7. S.D.	985	4.18	5.36	4.90
8. Minn.	977	2.83	6.07	4.92
9. Pitt.	976	3.46	5.97	4.92
10. N.E.	950	3.88	5.70	4.96
11. Phil.	1054	4.46	5.43	4.98
12. Den.	1020	4.06	5.95	5.12
13. G.B.	1002	4.14	5.90	5.12
14. Buff.	1029	4.74	5.46	5.12
15. N.Y.G.	1057	4.00	6.09	5.18
16. T.B.	1015	3.86	6.47	5.19
17. N.Y.J.	1020	4.60	5.68	5.20
18. K.C.	999	4.18	6.20	5.27
19. N.O.	930	4.94	5.57	5.29
20. Clev.	1041	4.43	6.15	5.30
21. Dall.	974	3.87	6.43	5.30
22. Det.	1033	4.09	6.51	5.35
23. Atl.	994	3.75	6.64	5.36
24. Sea.	986	4.60	5.97	5.36
25. S.F.	1025	4.09	6.47	5.37
26. Cin.	1038	4.16	6.47	5.47
27. Ariz.	1018	4.14	6.60	5.49
28. Hou.	979	4.39	6.46	5.52
29. Ind.	959	5.33	5.79	5.54
30. Ten.	1062	4.57	6.48	5.57
31. St.L.	962	4.88	6.26	5.57
32. Wash.	997	4.47	6.91	5.71

## INSIDE THE RED ZONE

	OFFENSE				
	POSS	TD	FG	SCOR%	TD%
1. S.D.	62	42	17	.952	.677
2. Ind.	62	41	16	.919	.661
3. K.C.	48	29	14	.896	.604
4. Dall.	58	35	13	.828	.603
5. N.E.	60	36	17	.883	.600
6. Cin.	52	30	17	.904	.577
7. Jax.	52	30	14	.846	.577
8. St.L.	54	31	19	.926	.574
9. Hou.	42	24	8	.762	.571
10. Phil.	46	26	10	.783	.565
11. N.O.	53	29	15	.830	.547
12. Den.	44	24	19	.977	.545
13. N.Y.G.	51	27	17	.863	.529
14. Sea.	42	22	14	.857	.524
15. Wash.	42	21	12	.786	.500
16. Pitt.	56	28	13	.732	.500
17. Clev.	39	19	14	.846	.487
18. Chi.	50	24	18	.840	.480
19. Car.	32	15	12	.844	.469
20. Ariz.	54	25	21	.852	.463
21. N.Y.J.	48	22	18	.833	.458
22. Minn.	42	19	17	.857	.452
23. Ten.	38	17	16	.868	.447
24. Mia.	46	20	15	.761	.435
25. T.B.	37	16	11	.730	.432
26. Buff.	35	15	15	.857	.429
27. Atl.	47	20	16	.766	.426
28. Balt.	52	22	20	.808	.423
29. S.F.	48	20	20	.833	.417
30. Det.	45	18	19	.822	.400
31. G.B.	49	16	18	.694	.327
32. Oak.	35	10	14	.686	.286

	DEFENSE				
	POSS	TD	FG	SCOR%	TD%
1. Balt.	33	11	10	.636	.333
2. N.E.	35	12	14	.743	.343
3. Minn.	46	17	21	.826	.370
4. Mia.	36	15	18	.917	.417
5. Oak.	62	27	25	.839	.435
6. Jax.	32	14	9	.719	.438
7. Den.	54	24	21	.833	.444
8. Pitt.	45	21	18	.867	.467
9. Chi.	40	19	13	.800	.475
10. Wash.	48	23	20	.896	.479
11. Ariz.	58	28	22	.862	.483
12. Phil.	43	21	14	.814	.488
13. Atl.	50	25	13	.760	.500
14. Hou.	49	25	14	.796	.510
15. Clev.	51	26	18	.863	.510
16. G.B.	45	23	15	.844	.511
17. S.F.	62	32	24	.903	.516
18. Dall.	48	25	16	.854	.521
19. N.Y.J.	46	24	14	.826	.522
20. Buff.	45	24	14	.844	.533
21. Det.	60	32	19	.850	.533
22. N.O.	41	22	13	.854	.537
23. K.C.	44	24	17	.932	.545
24. Cin.	52	29	14	.827	.558
25. Car.	43	24	18	.977	.558
26. T.B.	48	27	11	.792	.563
27. St.L.	55	31	11	.764	.564
28. Sea.	44	25	12	.841	.568
29. S.D.	47	27	14	.872	.574
30. Ten.	62	36	15	.823	.581
31. Ind.	51	30	12	.824	.588
32. N.Y.G.	46	30	10	.870	.652

## TURNOVER TABLE

TEAM	TURNOVERS			TAKEAWAYS			DIF
	Fum	Int	Tot	Fum	Int	Tot	
Balt.	9	14	23	12	28	40	+17
St.L.	10	8	18	15	17	32	+14
S.D.	6	9	15	12	16	28	+13
Chi.	14	22	36	20	24	44	+8
N.E.	15	12	27	13	22	35	+8
Cin.	11	13	24	12	19	31	+7
Ind.	10	9	19	11	15	26	+7
Atl.	5	15	20	14	12	26	+6
Phil.	15	9	24	10	19	29	+5
K.C.	14	12	26	15	15	30	+4
Minn.	12	20	32	15	21	36	+4
Ariz.	13	17	30	17	16	33	+3
Mia.	6	19	25	19	8	27	+2
Ten.	7	19	26	11	17	28	+2
Dall.	9	21	30	13	18	31	+1
Jax.	9	14	23	4	20	24	+1
Den.	12	18	30	13	17	30	+0
G.B.	15	18	33	10	23	33	+0
N.Y.G.	10	18	28	11	17	28	+0
N.Y.J.	9	16	25	9	16	25	+0
Hou.	12	13	25	11	11	22	-3
N.O.	10	13	23	8	11	19	-4
Buff.	15	14	29	11	13	24	-5
Car.	10	17	27	8	14	22	-5
S.F.	16	16	32	13	14	27	-5
Wash.	7	10	17	6	6	12	-5
Pitt.	14	23	37	9	20	29	-8
Sea.	12	22	34	14	12	26	-8
Det.	17	22	39	18	12	30	-9
T.B.	14	18	32	9	11	20	-12
Clev.	17	25	42	9	18	27	-15
Oak.	22	24	46	5	18	23	-23

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## AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE	BAL	BUF	CIN	CLE	DEN	HOU	IND	JAX	KC	MIA	NE	NYJ	OAK	PIT	SD	TEN
W-L-T	13-3-0	7-9-0	8-8-0	4-12-0	9-7-0	6-10-0	12-4-0	8-8-0	9-7-0	6-10-0	12-4-0	10-6-0	2-14-0	8-8-0	14-2-0	8-8-0
First downs	282	234	313	250	285	282	376	293	310	281	330	289	243	327	321	261
Rushing	86	82	88	72	106	106	112	127	105	82	121	99	73	100	137	105
Passing	179	132	200	153	151	156	241	147	184	180	181	161	144	201	169	133
Penalty	17	20	25	25	28	20	23	19	21	19	28	29	26	26	15	23
Total yards	5072	4271	5462	4233	4951	4465	6070	5423	5143	4960	5369	4891	3939	5725	5840	4810
Yards per game	317.0	266.9	341.4	264.6	309.4	279.1	379.4	338.9	321.4	310.0	335.6	305.7	246.2	357.8	365.0	300.6
Rushing yards	1637	1552	1629	1335	2152	1687	1762	2541	2143	1673	1969	1738	1519	1992	2578	2214
Yards per game	102.3	97.0	101.8	83.4	134.5	105.4	110.1	158.8	133.9	104.6	123.1	108.6	94.9	124.5	161.1	138.4
Passing (net)	3435	2719	3833	2898	2799	2778	4308	2882	3000	3287	3400	3153	2420	3733	3262	2596
Yards per game	214.7	169.9	239.6	181.1	174.9	173.6	269.3	180.1	187.5	205.4	212.5	197.1	151.3	233.3	203.9	162.3
Rushing plays	476	420	435	372	488	431	439	513	513	402	499	491	394	469	522	469
Yards per rush	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.6	4.4	3.9	4.0	5.0	4.2	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.9	4.2	4.9	4.7
Pass attempts	524	431	523	512	454	481	557	446	450	591	527	488	483	523	466	447
Completed	328	268	327	318	256	329	362	266	272	342	326	313	263	312	287	226
Pct. completed	62.6	62.2	62.5	62.1	56.4	68.4	65.0	59.6	60.4	57.9	61.9	64.1	54.5	59.7	61.6	50.6
Sacked	17	47	36	54	31	43	15	30	41	41	29	34	72	49	28	29
Yards lost	100	332	233	349	196	254	89	178	243	290	190	199	430	293	150	152
Had intercepted	14	14	13	25	18	13	9	14	12	19	12	16	24	23	9	19
Yards opp. ret.	142	198	180	273	292	174	136	222	146	207	72	148	286	441	105	250
Opp. TD's/int.	0	2	1	2	2	0	1	2	1	2	0	1	0	3	1	2
Punts	86	92	77	83	80	76	48	73	72	86	69	74	78	65	69	88
Gross average	43.0	43.6	44.5	43.6	41.7	41.6	43.4	40.0	44.1	42.3	41.3	43.4	46.9	41.3	41.9	42.7
Touchbacks	3	7	11	8	7	5	5	7	5	10	7	11	19	4	2	10
Net average	37.6	39.2	38.6	37.9	36.6	36.7	34.5	33.4	39.2	35.7	34.6	37.6	36.4	36.7	38.2	37.3
Blocked	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
Punt returns	45	39	36	36	32	23	23	45	33	41	36	29	35	34	45	37
Yards per ret.	7.8	10.8	6.6	10.3	9.2	10.5	9.0	8.0	8.0	9.2	11.7	8.4	6.2	8.4	8.5	12.6
Ret. for TD	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Kickoff returns	45	63	59	71	54	71	58	49	64	52	58	60	73	55	55	79
Yards per ret.	23.2	23.9	20.5	23.0	22.0	22.7	23.6	23.2	21.9	21.2	26.8	24.1	24.8	22.1	24.5	23.2
Ret. for TD	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Penalties	109	87	92	74	67	90	86	97	76	90	98	70	111	69	90	94
Yards penalized	878	629	717	687	478	761	718	806	577	789	940	560	847	611	791	803
Fumbles	21	28	25	23	29	28	13	16	25	19	27	21	32	27	19	29
Fumbles lost	9	15	11	17	12	12	10	9	14	6	15	9	22	14	6	7
Opp. fumbles	24	28	24	13	28	16	28	12	29	35	24	17	16	16	28	19
Opp. fum. lost	12	11	12	9	13	11	11	4	15	19	13	9	5	9	12	11
3rd-down att.	233	199	201	209	211	198	187	217	219	234	226	226	212	217	213	205
Converted	96	63	72	70	78	77	105	85	89	88	96	99	77	93	92	67
3rd-down pct.	41.2	31.7	35.8	33.5	37.0	38.9	56.1	39.2	40.6	37.6	42.5	43.8	36.3	42.9	43.2	32.7
4th-down att.	11	11	9	15	13	13	4	14	15	14	20	16	21	21	11	17
Converted	8	5	6	6	7	9	0	7	9	7	16	5	7	10	6	7
4th-down pct.	72.7	45.5	66.7	40.0	53.8	69.2	0	50.0	60.0	50.0	80.0	31.3	33.3	47.6	54.5	41.2
Time of poss.	32:49	28:04	28:34	29:21	29:50	29:14	29:32	32:11	30:06	30:01	31:35	31:03	28:13	31:13	31:39	27:17
Touchdowns	38	33	43	25	34	30	50	42	37	26	46	35	16	42	59	36
Rushing	11	9	14	7	12	13	17	23	17	7	20	15	5	16	32	15
Passing	21	19	28	15	20	14	31	17	18	16	25	17	7	23	24	13
Returns	6	5	1	3	2	3	2	2	2	3	1	3	4	3	3	8
1-pt. PAT/att.	37/37	33/33	40/42	25/25	34/34	26/27	47/48	41/41	35/36	22/22	43/44	34/35	16/16	41/41	58/58	32/32
2-pt. PAT/att.	0/1	0/0	0/1	0/0	0/0	2/3	1/2	0/1	1/1	2/4	2/2	0/0	0/0	0/0	1/1	3/3
FG/FGA	28/30	23/25	25/30	21/29	27/29	19/25	26/29	26/32	24/31	26/36	20/26	24/27	18/25	20/27	26/29	22/28
Points scored	353	300	373	238	319	267	427	371	331	260	385	316	168	353	492	324
DEFENSE	BAL	BUF	CIN	CLE	DEN	HOU	IND	JAX	KC	MIA	NE	NYJ	OAK	PIT	SD	TEN
Opp. points	201	311	331	356	305	366	360	274	315	283	237	295	332	315	303	400
Opp. 1st downs	236	298	337	303	291	312	325	259	298	267	264	312	267	269	285	329
Rushing	59	117	109	107	97	115	150	94	109	72	67	111	107	72	87	121
Passing	151	188	206	178	183	174	150	143	171	166	164	181	137	176	178	181
Penalty	26	13	22	18	11	23	25	22	18	29	33	20	23	21	20	27
Opp. tot. yards	4225	5273	5681	5517	5223	5400	5316	4538	5262	4625	4710	5306	4557	4805	4825	5915
Yards per game	264.1	329.6	355.1	344.8	326.4	337.5	332.3	283.6	328.9	289.1	294.4	331.6	284.8	300.3	301.6	369.7
Rushing yards	1214	2254	1863	2275	1813	1956	2768	1460	1928	1618	1507	2084	2144	1412	1613	2313
Yards per game	75.9	140.9	116.4	142.2	113.3	122.3	173.0	91.3	120.5	101.1	94.2	130.3	134.0	88.3	100.8	144.6
Passing (net)	3011	3019	3818	3242	3410	3444	2548	3078	3334	3007	3203	3222	2413	3393	3212	3602
Yards per game	188.2	188.7	238.6	202.6	213.1	215.3	159.3	192.4	208.4	187.9	200.2	201.4	150.8	212.1	200.8	225.1
Opp. rushes	367	476	448	514	447	446	519	420	461	461	388	453	542	408	386	506
Yards per rush	3.3	4.7	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.4	5.3	3.5	4.2	3.5	3.9	4.6	4.0	3.5	4.2	4.6
Opp. passes	509	513	555	499	538	505	415	523	506	497	518	532	410	529	538	530
Completed	279	324	349	283	327	328	266	294	314	279	294	316	245	319	307	335
Pct. completed	54.8	63.2	62.9	56.7	60.8	65.0	64.1	56.2	62.1	56.1	56.8	59.4	59.8	60.3	57.1	63.2
Sacked	60	40	35	28	35	28	25	35	32	47	44	35	34	39	61	26
Yards lost	418	265	211	137	202	191	157	200	190	268	281	230	218	226	351	148
Intercepted by	28	13	19	18	17	11	15	20	15	8	22	16	18	20	16	17
Yards returned	544	203	248	256	244	78	157	280	124	116	262	56	206	272	140	282
Ret. for TD	5	2	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	2
Opp. punts	86	86	72	77	74	65	47	90	75	91	79	74	68	86	88	68
Gross average	44.9	41.6	43.5	43.0	43.8	45.4	43.3	41.4	40.8	41.6	41.6	44.1	41.5	43.8	44.6	42.5
Touchbacks	11	8	10	5	7	13	5	7	11	5	7	15	3	11	7	4
Net average	38.3	34.8	37.4	36.9	37.9	37.6	36.8	35.8	34.4	36.3	34.4	36.8	37.4	38.0	38.6	34.4
Blocked	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Opp. punt ret.	44	36	42	43	39	36	25	29	32	49	29	28	34	38	27	33
Yards per ret.	9.2	7.4	5.6	7.3	6.9	7.6	13.1	11.8	7.9	7.5	11.1	7.3	12.9	5.8	8.0	8.4
Opp. KO ret.	75	60	70	48	55	52	78	60	71	40	68	69	42	70	90	58
Yards per ret.	21.8	21.3	21.0	21.9	26.9	23.4	26.0	21.0	23.2	24.5	22.8	21.2	28.6	22.4	21.8	21.8
Opp. penalties	79	90	97	84	97	96	86	80	85	91	102	105	85	104	87	102
Yards penalized	580	709	836	678	785	792	667	684	709	720	918	843	665	862	751	906
Opp. 3rd downs	208	216	211	228	221	198	191	227	212	23						



# NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

PREVIEW 2007

OFFENSE	AZ	ATL	CAR	CHI	DAL	DET	GB	MIN	NO	NYG	PHI	SF	SEA	STL	TB	WAS	AVG.
W-L-T	5-11-0	7-9-0	8-8-0	13-3-0	9-7-0	3-13-0	8-8-0	6-10-0	10-6-0	8-8-0	10-6-0	7-9-0	9-7-0	8-8-0	4-12-0	5-11-0	
First downs	298	287	278	300	336	290	301	272	330	304	312	243	312	332	237	295	293.9
Rushing	84	134	100	103	107	53	93	87	99	120	106	97	112	94	82	123	99.8
Passing	187	133	158	161	197	208	185	160	207	163	189	132	167	212	133	150	170.4
Penalty	27	20	20	36	32	29	23	25	24	21	17	14	33	26	22	22	23.6
Total yards	5000	5310	4923	5199	5772	4949	5458	4943	6264	5214	6103	4860	4977	5767	4321	5243	5154.0
Yds p/gm	312.5	331.9	307.7	324.9	360.8	309.3	341.1	308.9	391.5	325.9	381.4	303.8	311.1	360.4	270.1	327.7	322.1
Rushing yds	1338	2939	1659	1918	1936	1129	1663	1820	1761	2156	1984	2172	1923	1805	1523	2216	1877.0
Yds p/gm	83.6	183.7	103.7	119.9	121.0	70.6	103.9	113.8	110.1	134.8	124.0	135.8	120.2	112.8	95.2	138.5	117.3
Passing (net)	3662	2371	3264	3281	3836	3820	3795	3123	4503	3058	4119	2688	3054	3962	2798	3027	3277.0
Yds p/gm	228.9	148.2	204.0	205.1	239.8	238.8	237.2	195.2	281.4	191.1	257.4	168.0	190.9	247.6	174.9	189.2	204.8
Rush. plays	419	537	423	503	472	304	431	442	472	455	416	439	484	424	404	490	451.5
Yds p/rush	3.2	5.5	3.9	3.8	4.1	3.7	3.9	4.1	3.7	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.0	4.3	3.8	4.5	4.2
Pass att.	545	416	539	514	506	596	630	540	580	523	544	444	512	592	535	470	512.2
Comp.	322	222	325	282	310	372	350	332	372	301	323	257	292	371	296	274	306.1
Pct. comp.	59.1	53.4	60.3	54.9	61.3	62.4	55.6	61.5	64.1	57.6	59.4	57.9	57.0	62.7	55.3	58.3	59.8
Sacked	35	47	32	25	37	63	24	43	23	25	28	35	49	49	33	19	36.3
Yards lost	262	311	222	165	231	388	152	279	123	186	190	202	315	366	196	147	231.7
Had int.	17	15	17	22	21	22	18	20	13	18	9	16	22	8	18	10	16.3
Yds opp. ret.	110	219	145	321	334	280	201	399	180	216	250	213	141	118	280	272	217.2
Opp. TD's/int.	1	2	0	4	2	2	2	4	4	1	2	1	1	0	1	2	1.5
Punts	68	78	100	77	56	66	84	94	77	77	78	81	86	76	93	82	77.8
Gross avg.	43.6	41.0	45.1	44.2	48.2	45.0	44.5	42.1	43.8	40.2	42.6	44.8	44.5	42.4	43.5	42.3	43.2
Touchbacks	3	6	12	7	10	9	12	7	10	3	11	9	15	5	7	7	7.9
Net avg.	34.5	35.9	38.8	37.6	38.6	38.2	35.7	35.5	37.5	37.0	34.9	36.8	37.0	37.8	36.8	36.7	36.9
Blocked	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0.4
Punt returns	25	37	49	50	40	35	53	38	51	33	36	28	49	30	54	39	38.0
Yards per ret.	10.0	7.8	4.6	12.1	8.4	11.3	7.8	9.8	7.3	8.7	9.4	8.5	8.7	7.8	6.5	8.8	8.7
Ret. for TD	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.5
KO returns	73	68	62	59	64	74	70	66	60	70	58	79	69	65	61	73	63.7
Yds per ret.	22.1	22.7	19.4	23.3	23.3	22.3	19.7	22.6	23.0	20.1	20.8	24.1	22.4	21.3	21.4	22.3	22.5
Ret. for TD	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.3
Penalties	117	96	103	112	100	116	90	123	79	101	112	93	94	116	87	106	95.2
Yds penalized	937	877	744	923	939	939	689	903	597	881	983	818	700	960	732	951	786.4
Fumbles	31	18	21	26	21	26	25	31	23	23	26	24	21	20	27	20	23.9
Fumbles lost	13	5	10	14	9	17	15	12	10	10	15	16	12	10	14	7	11.8
Opp. fumbles	29	25	22	32	26	29	29	25	22	23	25	23	34	24	25	15	23.9
Opp. fumb. lost	17	14	8	20	13	18	10	15	8	11	10	13	14	15	9	6	11.8
3rd-down att.	212	220	209	231	205	190	240	233	234	203	209	209	224	222	222	211	215.0
Converted	83	79	65	85	100	62	94	77	105	77	88	72	85	83	82	79	83.2
3rd-down pct.	39.2	35.9	31.1	36.8	48.8	32.6	39.2	33.0	44.9	37.9	42.1	34.4	37.9	37.4	36.9	37.4	38.7
4th-down att.	15	20	9	13	19	22	17	21	20	15	11	11	8	18	16	13	14.8
Converted	10	8	3	9	9	9	7	15	12	7	5	6	2	12	4	6	7.5
4th-down pct.	66.7	40.0	33.3	69.2	47.4	40.9	41.2	71.4	60.0	46.7	45.5	54.5	25.0	66.7	25.0	46.2	50.5
Time of poss.	29:59	29:48	30:12	30:34	31:02	27:41	30:45	31:37	31:53	29:35	28:38	28:37	29:48	31:07	28:06	29:59	30:00
Touchdowns	33	32	28	47	52	31	32	32	49	41	49	30	37	39	23	34	36.9
Rushing	12	9	7	14	21	9	9	12	19	14	13	12	8	13	6	13	13.3
Passing	17	21	19	24	26	21	18	13	27	24	31	16	26	24	14	19	20.3
Returns	4	2	2	9	5	1	5	7	3	3	5	2	3	2	3	2	3.4
1-pt. PAT/att.	32/32	31/31	28/28	47/47	49/49	30/30	31/32	27/28	46/47	38/38	48/48	29/29	36/36	35/35	22/23	31/31	35.1/35.5
2-pt. PAT/att.	0/1	0/1	0/0	0/0	2/3	0/1	0/0	0/4	2/2	0/2	1/1	0/1	1/1	1/3	0/0	2/2	0.7/1.3
FG/FGA	28/37	23/32	24/27	32/36	20/28	29/33	26/35	21/25	23/26	23/27	18/23	29/35	25/31	32/37	17/22	22/30	24.0/29.4
Pts scored	314	292	270	427	425	305	301	282	413	355	398	298	335	367	211	307	330.5

DEFENSE	AZ	ATL	CAR	CHI	DAL	DET	GB	MIN	NO	NYG	PHI	SF	SEA	STL	TB	WAS	AVG.
Opp. points	389	328	305	255	350	398	366	327	322	362	328	412	341	381	353	376	330.5
Opp. 1st dns.	331	313	267	258	294	319	291	272	262	314	314	326	277	313	300	301	293.9
Rushing	114	97	96	77	88	111	95	53	96	106	126	107	102	121	108	104	99.8
Passing	186	183	149	159	179	183	169	192	148	189	154	189	160	164	174	169	170.4
Penalty	31	33	22	22	27	25	27	27	18	19	34	30	15	28	18	28	23.6
Opp. tot. yds	5591	5325	4737	4706	5165	5530	5134	4803	4917	5479	5249	5507	5285	5362	5271	5688	5154.0
Yds per game	349.4	332.8	296.1	294.1	322.8	345.6	320.9	300.2	307.3	342.4	328.1	344.2	330.3	335.1	329.4	355.5	322.1
Rushing yds	1897	1657	1737	1590	1659	2010	1825	985	2063	1830	2182	1936	2029	2327	1917	2197	1877.0
Yds per game	118.6	103.6	108.6	99.4	103.7	125.6	114.1	61.6	128.9	114.4	136.4	121.0	126.8	145.4	119.8	137.3	117.3
Passing (net)	3694	3668	3000	3116	3506	3520	3309	3818	2854	3649	3067	3571	3256	3035	3354	3491	3277.0
Yds per game	230.9	229.3	187.5	194.8	219.1	220.0	206.8	238.6	178.4	228.1	191.7	223.2	203.5	189.7	209.6	218.2	204.8
Opp. rushes	458	442	449	402	429	492	441	348	418	458	489	473	441	477	497	492	451.5
Yds per rush	4.1	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.1	2.8	4.9	4.0	4.5	4.1	4.6	4.9	3.9	4.5	4.2
Opp. passes	522	515	500	581	511	511	515	599	474	567	525	518	504	451	493	486	512.2
Completed	321	321	291	328	301	339	286	355	267	333	309	331	299	266	301	289	306.1
Pct. comp.	61.5	62.3	58.2	56.5	58.9	66.3	55.5	59.3	56.3	58.7	58.9	63.9	59.3	59.0	61.1	59.5	59.8
Sacked	38	37	41	40	34	30	46	30	38	32	40	34	41	34	25	19	36.3
Yards lost	238	235	265	272	223	201	337	197	268	181	300	246	282	214	166	95	231.7
Int'cepted by	16	12	14	24	18	12	23	21	11	17	19	14	12	17	11	6	16.3
Yds returned	350	257	115	279	234	160	289	243	106	305	428	178	124	164	226	25	217.2
Ret. for TD	1	1	2	1	3	1	4	3	0	2	4	1	1	1	3	0	1.5
Opp. punts	58	77	98	100	72	68	83	79	96	69	82	66	88	67	81	79	77.8
Gross avg.	44.8	43.9	43.8	43.7	43.1	44.0	44.6	45.4	43.6	41.9	43.5	42.3	42.9	45.2	41.6	42.0	43.2
Touchbacks	8	6	4	12	6	6	7	11	8	8	9	7	5	9	8	11	7.9
Net average	37.7	38.6	40.7	35.2	36.7	36.4	37.9	37.8	38.0	35.4	37.2	36.6	36.9	39.0	35.3	34.9	36.9
Blocked	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0.4
Opp. punt ret.	44	25	61	38	31	38	55	50	40	33	41	35	39	27	50	45	38.8
Yards per ret.	12.8	11.2	6.4	9.7	10.8	7.0	9.1	9.7	7.0	5.8	9.3	13.2	8.8	9.1	9.7	7.1	8.8
Opp. KO ret.	58	53	59	83	80	63	60	59	72	65	71	65	61	69	46	67	83.2
Yards per ret.	25.5	20.6	22.1	20.8	19.6	22.9	22.5	23.2	22.2	22.4	23.2	21.1	24.6	24.7	18.4	20.8	22.2
Opp. penalties	95	99	89	132	93	102	97	112	89	97	96	87	118	92	83	94	99.9
Yds penalized	815	799	735	1084	895	869	710	899	674	771	807	703	950	835	658	856	786.6
Opp. 3rd dns.	201	207	222	239	212	207	215	215	199	226	222	216	219	205	217	222	215.5
Converted	83	87	70	74	93	90	70	74	69	97	83	96	80	93	82	97	83.3
3rd-down pct.	41.3	42.0	31.5	31.0	43.9	43.5	32.6	34.4	34.7	42.9	37.4	44.4	36.5	45.4	37.8	43.7	38.8
Opp. 4th dns.	15	10	14	16	16	5	21	13	13	24	21	14	12	6	12	9	14.4
Converted	7	4	11	10	8	4	13	7	6	9	10	7	6	2	5	6	7.7
4th-down pct.	46.7	40.0	78.6	62.5	50.0	80.0	61.9	53.8	46.2	37.5	47.6	50.0	50.0	33.3	41.7	66.7	50.0
Opp. TD's	42	37	33	29	40	44	41	32	40	42	36	46	39	46	41	41	36.3
Rushing	16	14	10	7	12	18	12	9	10	19	12	18	12	21	11	9	13.3
Passing	21	20	22	18	25	22	25	15	26	21	17	25	23	21	26	30	20.3
Returns	5	3	1	4	3	4	4	8	4	2	7	3	4	4	4	2	3.0
1-pt. PAT/att.	42/42	37/37	31/31	27/28	38/38	40/41	38/38	31/31	40/40	40/40	34/34	46/46	36/36	46/46	41/41	36/36	35.1/35.1
2-pt. PAT/att.	0/0	0/0	2/2	0/1	1/2	2/3	2/3	0/1	0/0	2/2	0/1	0/0	1/3	0/0	0/0	1/4	0.7/1.1
Opp. FG/GA	31/34	23/29	24/30	18/27	22/25	30/33	26/27	34/40	14/18	22/29	26/28	30/32	23/33	19/24	22/30	30/34	24.0/29.0



## AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE	BAL	BUF	CIN	CLE	DEN	HOU	IND	JAX	KC	MIA	NE	NYJ	OAK	PIT	SD	TEN
Total Yards/Game	17	30	8	31	21	28	3	10	16	20	11	25	32	7	4	27
Rushing Yards/Game	25	27	26	31	8	21	18	3	9	22	12	20	29	10	2	5
Avg. Gain/Rush	31	28	25	29	9	20	16	2	12	13	18	30	22	11	4	7
Passing Yards/Game	11	28	6	23	25	27	2	24	22	13	12	17	31	9	16	30
Avg. Gain/Pass Play	8	21	5	30	19	27	1	15	13	28	12	16	32	7	6	24
Pct. Had Intercepted	10	17	8	31	25	11	2	14	9	16	7	18	32	30	4	27
Pct. QB Sacks Allowed	2	30	17	28	16	24	1	15	25	18	9	19	32	26	11	14
First Downs/Game	22t	32	8	28	21	22t	1	17	11	24	4t	19	29t	6	7	27
Avg. Gain/Off. Play	22	28	7	30	18	29	2	8	15	26	17	24	32	6	4	16
3rd Down Efficiency	9	31	25	27	20	14	1	11	10	17	7	4	23	6	5	29
4th Down Efficiency	2	20t	6t	25t	13	4t	32	14t	9t	14t	1	29	27t	16	11t	22t
Punt Return Avg.	25t	5	29	7	12	6	13	22	23	11	3	20	31	19	17	1
Kickoff Return Avg.	10	6	29	13	23	16	7	12	24	27	1	5	2	21	3	11
Gross Punting Avg.	18	13	6	12	26	27	16	32	10	23	29	17	2	28	25	19
Net Punting Avg.	10	2	4	8	21	20	30	32	1	26	29	14	23	19	6	13
Points/Game	12t	23	8	30	17	28	2t	9	15	29	7	18	32	12t	1	16
One-Point Conversion Pct.	1t	1t	32	1t	1t	30	23	1t	26	1t	25	27	1t	1t	1t	1t
Field Goal Pct.	1	3	14	28	2	23	4t	16	20	29	22	6t	30	26	4t	18
DEFENSE	BAL	BUF	CIN	CLE	DEN	HOU	IND	JAX	KC	MIA	NE	NYJ	OAK	PIT	SD	TEN
Opp. Yards/Game	1	18	30	27	14	24	21	2	16	4	6	20	3	9	10	32
Opp. Rush Yds./Game	2	28	15	29	12	20	32	4	18	8	5	24	25	3	7	30
Avg. Gain/Rush	2	29	19	23	14	22	32	4	21	5	10	27	12	3	20	26
Opp. Pass Yds./Game	6	7	31t	15	21	22	2	10	18	5	12	14	1	20	13	27
Avg. Gain/Pass Play	2	6	26	20	15	24	13	7	21	8	12	11	5	16	3	28
Pct. Intercepted By	1	24	14	11	16	30	10	6	21	31	4	18	3	7	20	15
QB Sack Pct.	1	10	23	27	21	28	24	17	22	3	5	19	6	13	2	31
Opp. 1st Downs/Game	1	16t	32	20	13t	21t	28	3	16t	6t	5	21t	6t	9	12	30
Avg. Gain/Def. Play	1	14	26	20	12	28	29	5	18	3	10	17	4	9	7	30
3rd Down Efficiency	1	12	22	27	14	29t	32	11	18	17	8	10	7	19	13	20
4th Down Efficiency	7	28	20	8t	5	11	30t	2	25	23	1	19	21	15t	4	24
Opp. Punt Return Avg.	20	11	1	9	5	13	31	28	14	12	26	10	30	2	15	16
Opp. Kickoff Ret. Avg.	13	10	6	14	31	25	30	7	22	26	20	9	32	18	12	11
Opp. Gross Punt Avg.	29	6	16	13	21	32	15	2	1	5	4	25	3	22	26	11
Opp. Net Punt Avg.	28	4	19	16	26	23	14	6	1	12	5	15	20	21	30	2
Opp. Points/Game	1	10	17	22	8t	25t	23	4	11t	5	2	6	18	11t	7	31
Opp. Field Goal Pct.	8	21	5	20	16	23	2	4	17	24t	6t	9	19	11t	27	18
MISCELLANEOUS	BAL	BUF	CIN	CLE	DEN	HOU	IND	JAX	KC	MIA	NE	NYJ	OAK	PIT	SD	TEN
Point Differential	3	17	10	30	14	28	9	5	13	19	4	12	32	11	1	26
Turnover Edge	1	23t	6t	31	17t	21	6t	15t	10t	13t	4t	17t	32	27t	3	13t
Penalty Yards Edge	32	9	7	14t	1	11	19	27t	6	20	16	2	31	3	17	8
Punt Ret. Differential	23	3	13	4	9	6	30	29	19	10	14	12	32	7	15	2
KO Return Differential	13	7	17	14	32	20	24	9	21	28	1	5	31	16	6	12
Time of Possession	1	30	27	23	18	24	22	2	14	15	6	9	28	7	4	32



# NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

OFFENSE	AZ	ATL	CAR	CHI	DAL	DET	GB	MIN	NO	NYG	PHI	SF	SEA	STL	TB	WAS
Total Yards/Game	18	12	24	15	5	22	9	23	1	14	2	26	19	6	29	13
Rushing Yards/Game	30	1	24	15	13	32	23	16	19	7	11	6	14	17	28	4
Avg. Gain/Rush	32	1	19	23	15	27	21	14	26	6	5	3	17	10	24	8
Passing Yards/Game	10	32	15	14	5	7	8	18	1	19	3	29	20	4	26	21
Avg. Gain/Pass Play	9	29	20	14	4	18	17	26	2	23	3	22	25	11	31	10
Pct. Had Intercepted	13	22	15	28	26	23	12	24	6	20	3	21	29	1	19	5
Pct. QB Sacks Allowed	13	31	10	7	20	29	3	22	4	6	8	21	27	23	12	5
First Downs/Game	15	20	25	14	2	18	13	26	4t	12	9t	29t	9t	3	31	16
Avg. Gain/Off. Play	20	11	23	21	5	14	19	25	3	13	1	12	27	9	31	10
3rd Down Efficiency	13	24	32	22	2	30	12	28	3	16	8	26	15	19	21	18
4th Down Efficiency	6t	25t	27t	4t	17	24	22t	3	9t	18	20t	11t	30t	6t	30t	19
Punt Return Avg.	8	27	32	2	21	4	24	9	28	15	10	18	16	25t	30	14
Kickoff Return Avg.	22	15	32	9	8	20	31	17	14	30	28	4	18	26	25	19
Gross Punting Avg.	14	30	3	9	1	4	7	24	11	31	20	5	8	21	15	22
Net Punting Avg.	31	27	5	9	3	7	24	25	11	16	28	17	15	12	18	22
Points/Game	19	25	27	2t	4	21	22	26	5	11	6	24	14	10	31	20
One-Point Conversion Pct.	1t	1t	1t	1t	1t	1t	28	29	24	1t	1t	1t	1t	1t	31	1t
Field Goal Pct.	24	31	6t	6t	32	10	25	13	9	12	19	15	17	11	21	27
DEFENSE	AZ	ATL	CAR	CHI	DAL	DET	GB	MIN	NO	NYG	PHI	SF	SEA	STL	TB	WAS
Opp. Yards/Game	29	22	7	5	13	28	12	8	11	25	15	26	19	23	17	31
Opp. Rush Yds./Game	16	9	11	6	10	21	13	1	23	14	26	19	22	31	17	27
Avg. Gain/Rush	18	6	9	11	8	15	17	1	31	13	24	16	28	30	7	25
Opp. Pass Yds./Game	30	29	4	11	24	25	17	31t	3	28	9	26	16	8	19	23
Avg. Gain/Pass Play	30	31	9	1	23	29	14	18	10	19	4	25	17	22	27	32
Pct. Intercepted By	17	27	22	5	12	26	2	13	28	19	9	23	25	8	29	32
QB Sack Pct.	14	15	7	16	18	25	4	30	9	26	11	20	8	12	29	32
Opp. 1st Downs/Game	31	23t	6t	2	15	27	13t	10	4	25t	25t	29	11	23t	18	19
Avg. Gain/Def. Play	27	23	6	2	21	22	13	8	19	15	11	25	24	31	16	32
3rd Down Efficiency	21	23	3	2	28	25	4	5	6	24	15	29t	9	31	16	26
4th Down Efficiency	13	8t	30t	27	15t	32	26	22	12	6	14	15t	15t	3	10	29
Opp. Punt Return Avg.	29	27	4	22	25	7	18	23	6	3	21	32	17	19	24	8
Opp. Kickoff Ret. Avg.	29	3	15	5	2	21	19	24	16	17	23	8	27	28	1	4
Opp. Gross Punt Avg.	28	23	20	19	14	24	27	31	18	8	17	10	12	30	7	9
Opp. Net Punt Avg.	24	29	32	7	13	10	27	25	22	9	18	11	17	31	8	3
Opp. Points/Game	29	15t	8t	3	20	30	25t	14	13	24	15t	32	19	28	21	27
Opp. Field Goal Pct.	29	14	15	1	24t	28	32	22	11t	10	30	31	3	13	6t	26
MISCELLANEOUS	AZ	ATL	CAR	CHI	DAL	DET	GB	MIN	NO	NYG	PHI	SF	SEA	STL	TB	WAS
Point Differential	25	21	20	2	7	27	23	22	6	16	8	29	15	18	31	24
Turnover Edge	12	8	23t	4t	15t	29	17t	10t	22	17t	9	23t	27t	2	30	23t
Penalty Yards Edge	27t	23	14t	5	18	21	12	13	10	25	30	26	4	29	22	24
Punt Ret. Differential	26	28	24	8	25	1	21	18	16	5	17	31	20	22	27	11
KO Return Differential	30	10	26	8	2	19	27	18	15	23	25	4	22	29	3	11
Time of Possession	16t	19t	13	12	10	31	11	5	3	21	25	26	19t	8	29	16t





QB PEYTON MANNING  
RON FINE



QB DREW BREES  
JEFF BARCA

## AFC PASSING

	Team	Att	Comp	Comp Pct	Yds	TD	TD Pct	Lg	Int	Int Pct	Avg Gain	Rating
Manning	Ind.	557	362	65.0	4,397	31	5.6	68	9	1.6	7.89	101.0
Huard	K.C.	244	148	60.7	1,878	11	4.5	78	1	0.4	7.70	98.0
Palmer	Cin.	520	324	62.3	4,035	28	5.4	74	13	2.5	7.76	93.9
Rivers	S.D.	460	284	61.7	3,388	22	4.8	57	9	2.0	7.37	92.0
Brady	N.E.	516	319	61.8	3,529	24	4.7	62	12	2.3	6.84	87.9
Losman	Buff.	429	268	62.5	3,051	19	4.4	83	14	3.3	7.11	84.9
Pennington	N.Y.J.	485	313	64.5	3,352	17	3.5	71	16	3.3	6.91	82.6
McNair	Balt.	468	295	63.0	3,050	16	3.4	87	12	2.6	6.52	82.5
Carr	Hou.	442	302	68.3	2,767	11	2.5	53	12	2.7	6.26	82.1
Garrard	Jax.	241	145	60.2	1,735	10	4.1	49	9	3.7	7.20	80.5
Roethlisberger	Pitt.	469	280	59.7	3,513	18	3.8	67	23	4.9	7.49	75.4
Frye	Clev.	393	252	64.1	2,454	10	2.5	75	17	4.3	6.24	72.0
Plummer	Den.	317	175	55.2	1,994	11	3.5	83	13	4.1	6.29	68.8
Harrington	Mia.	388	223	57.5	2,236	12	3.1	48	15	3.9	5.76	68.2
Young	Ten.	357	184	51.5	2,199	12	3.4	53	13	3.6	6.16	66.7
Walter	Oak.	276	147	53.3	1,677	3	1.1	51	13	4.7	6.08	55.8

## NON-QUALIFIERS

Testaverde	N.E.	3	2	66.7	29	1	33.3	23	0	0.0	9.67	137.5
Tomlinson	S.D.	3	2	66.7	20	2	66.7	19	0	0.0	6.67	125.0
Batch	Pitt.	53	31	58.5	492	5	9.4	87	0	0.0	9.28	121.0
Wilson	Pitt.	1	1	100.0	21	0	0.0	21	0	0.0	21.00	118.8
Wright	Cin.	3	3	100.0	31	0	0.0	22	0	0.0	10.33	109.7
Boller	Balt.	55	33	60.0	485	5	9.1	77	2	3.6	8.82	104.0
Rosenfels	Hou.	39	27	69.2	265	3	7.7	28	1	2.6	6.79	103.0
Cutler	Den.	137	81	59.1	1,001	9	6.6	71	5	3.6	7.31	88.5
Gray	Jax.	22	13	59.1	166	0	0.0	32	0	0.0	7.55	82.8
Leftwich	Jax.	183	108	59.0	1,159	7	3.8	51	5	2.7	6.33	79.0
Lemon	Mia.	68	38	55.9	412	2	2.9	38	1	1.5	6.06	77.6
Culpepper	Mia.	134	81	60.4	929	2	1.5	52	3	2.2	6.93	77.0
Green	K.C.	198	121	61.1	1,342	7	3.5	39	9	4.5	6.78	74.1
Cassel	N.E.	8	5	62.5	32	0	0.0	10	0	0.0	4.00	70.8
Anderson	Clev.	117	66	56.4	793	5	4.3	54	8	6.8	6.78	63.1
Brooks	Oak.	192	110	57.3	1,105	3	1.6	57	8	4.2	5.76	61.7
Volek	S.D.	2	1	50.0	4	0	0.0	4	0	0.0	2.00	56.3
Tuiasosopo	Oak.	13	6	46.2	68	1	7.7	29	2	15.4	5.23	48.4
Collins	Ten.	90	42	46.7	549	1	1.1	36	6	6.7	6.10	42.3
Croyle	K.C.	7	3	42.9	23	0	0.0	11	2	28.6	3.29	11.9
Curry	Oak.	2	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	1	50.0	0.00	0.0

## NFC PASSING

	Team	Att	Comp	Comp Pct	Yds	TD	TD Pct	Lg	Int	Int Pct	Avg Gain	Rating
Brees	N.O.	554	356	64.3	4,418	26	4.7	86	11	2.0	7.97	96.2
McNabb	Phil.	316	180	57.0	2,647	18	5.7	87	6	1.9	8.38	95.5
Romo	Dall.	337	220	65.3	2,903	19	5.6	56	13	3.9	8.61	95.1
Bulger	St.L.	588	370	62.9	4,301	24	4.1	67	8	1.4	7.31	92.9
Brunell	Wash.	260	162	62.3	1,789	8	3.1	74	4	1.5	6.88	86.5
Delhomme	Car.	431	263	61.0	2,805	17	3.9	72	11	2.6	6.51	82.6
Kitna	Det.	596	372	62.4	4,208	21	3.5	60	22	3.7	7.06	79.9
Manning	N.Y.G.	522	301	57.7	3,244	24	4.6	55	18	3.4	6.21	77.0
Hasselbeck	Sea.	371	210	56.6	2,442	18	4.9	72	15	4.0	6.58	76.0
Vick	Atl.	388	204	52.6	2,474	20	5.2	55	13	3.4	6.38	75.7
A. Smith	S.F.	442	257	58.1	2,890	16	3.6	75	16	3.6	6.54	74.8
Leinart	Ariz.	377	214	56.8	2,547	11	2.9	58	12	3.2	6.76	74.0
Grossman	Chi.	480	262	54.6	3,193	23	4.8	62	20	4.2	6.65	73.9
Favre	G.B.	613	343	56.0	3,885	18	2.9	82	18	2.9	6.34	72.7
Br. Johnson	Minn.	439	270	61.5	2,750	9	2.1	46	15	3.4	6.26	72.0
Gradkowski	T.B.	328	177	54.0	1,661	9	2.7	53	9	2.7	5.06	65.9

## NON-QUALIFIERS

Longwell	Minn.	1	1	100.0	16	1	100.0	16	0	0.0	16.00	158.3
Moore	Minn.	1	1	100.0	15	1	100.0	15	0	0.0	15.00	158.3
Randle El	Wash.	3	2	66.7	88	1	33.3	48	0	0.0	29.33	149.3
Feeley	Phil.	38	26	68.4	342	3	7.9	89	0	0.0	9.00	122.9
Maynard	Chi.	1	1	100.0	37	0	0.0	37	0	0.0	37.00	118.8
Ryan	G.B.	1	1	100.0	16	0	0.0	16	0	0.0	16.00	118.8
Akers	Phil.	1	1	100.0	11	0	0.0	11	0	0.0	11.00	112.5
Garcia	Phil.	188	116	61.7	1,309	10	5.3	65	2	1.1	6.96	95.8
Martin	N.O.	24	16	66.7	208	1	4.2	65	1	4.2	8.67	90.3
Warner	Ariz.	168	108	64.3	1,377	6	3.6	64	5	3.0	8.20	89.3
Rattay	T.B.	101	61	60.4	748	4	4.0	64	2	2.0	7.41	88.2
Jones	Chi.	1	1	100.0	-4	0	0.0	-4	0	0.0	-4.00	79.2
J. Campbell	Wash.	207	110	53.1	1,297	10	4.8	66	6	2.9	6.27	76.5
Wallace	Sea.	141	82	58.2	927	8	5.7	49	7	5.0	6.57	76.2
Bollinger	Minn.	18	13	72.2	146	0	0.0	50	1	5.6	8.11	72.9
Schaub	Atl.	27	18	66.7	208	1	3.7	47	2	7.4	7.70	71.2
Bledsoe	Dall.	169	90	53.3	1,164	7	4.1	51	8	4.7	6.89	69.2
Weinke	Car.	96	56	58.3	625	2	2.1	38	4	4.2	6.51	67.4
Frerotte	St.L.	3	1	33.3	27	0	0.0	27	0	0.0	9.00	67.4
T. Jackson	Minn.	81	47	58.0	475	2	2.5	50	4	4.9	5.86	62.5
Griese	Chi.	32	18	56.3	220	1	3.1	75	2	6.3	6.88	62.0
A. Rodgers	G.B.	15	6	40.0	46	0	0.0	16	0	0.0	3.07	48.2
Simms	T.B.	106	58	54.7	585	1	0.9	55	7	6.6	5.52	46.3
Basanez	Car.	11	6	54.5	56	0	0.0	18	1	9.1	5.09	30.9
Bush	N.O.	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	1	100.0	0.00	0.0
Baskett	Phil.	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	1	100.0	0.00	0.0
Johnson	Car.	1	0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	1	100.0	0.00	0.0

Excludes players who attempted only one pass and had no completions or interceptions.



## AFC RUSHING

	Team	Att	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Tomlinson	S.D.	348	1,815	5.2	85	28
L. Johnson	K.C.	416	1,789	4.3	47	17
Parker	Pitt.	337	1,494	4.4	76	13
R. Johnson	Cin.	341	1,309	3.8	22	12
Henry	Ten.	270	1,211	4.5	70	7
Taylor	Jax.	231	1,146	5.0	76	5
J. Lewis	Balt.	314	1,132	3.6	52	9
Addai	Ind.	226	1,081	4.8	41	7
T. Bell	Den.	233	1,025	4.4	51	2
Brown	Mia.	241	1,008	4.2	47	5
McGahee	Buff.	259	990	3.8	57	6
Jones-Drew	Jax.	166	941	5.7	74	13
Dillon	N.E.	199	812	4.1	50	13
Droughns	Clev.	220	758	3.4	22	4
Maroney	N.E.	175	745	4.3	41	6
M. Bell	Den.	157	677	4.3	48	8
Fargas	Oak.	178	659	3.7	48	1
L. Washington	N.Y.J.	151	650	4.3	23	4
Rhodes	Ind.	187	641	3.4	17	5
Dayne	Hou.	151	612	4.1	19	5
Young	Ten.	83	552	6.7	39	7
Turner	S.D.	80	502	6.3	73	2
Lundy	Hou.	124	476	3.8	35	4
Jordan	Oak.	114	434	3.8	59	2
Morris	Mia.	92	400	4.3	55	1
A. Thomas	Buff.	107	378	3.5	19	2
Houston	N.Y.J.	113	374	3.3	31	5
Barlow	N.Y.J.	131	370	2.8	12	6
Garrard	Jax.	47	250	5.3	20	0
White	Ten.	61	244	4.0	26	0
Davenport	Pitt.	60	221	3.7	48	1
Frye	Clev.	47	215	4.6	17	3
Gado	G.B.-Hou.	56	210	3.8	34	1
M. Bennett	K.C.	36	200	5.6	41	0
Carr	Hou.	53	195	3.7	16	2
Wright	Clev.	62	189	3.0	18	0
Anderson	Balt.	39	183	4.7	34	1
Crockett	Oak.	39	163	4.2	17	0
C. Brown	Ten.	41	156	3.8	21	0
Mu. Smith	Balt.	36	153	4.3	30	0
Losman	Buff.	38	140	3.7	15	1
Neal	S.D.	29	140	4.8	43	1
Watson	Cin.	25	138	5.5	18	1
Brooks	Oak.	22	124	5.6	23	0
Faulk	N.E.	25	123	4.9	11	1
Walker	Den.	9	123	13.7	72	1
Taylor	Hou.	28	123	4.4	17	1
McNair	Balt.	45	119	2.6	19	1
Evans	N.E.	27	117	4.3	35	0
Plummer	Den.	36	112	3.1	19	1
Pennington	N.Y.J.	35	109	3.1	15	0
B. Smith	N.Y.J.	18	103	5.7	32	0
Brady	N.E.	49	102	2.1	22	0
Roethlisberger	Pitt.	32	98	3.1	20	2
Chambers	Mia.	8	95	11.9	39	0
Pearman	Jax.	19	89	4.7	12	1
Sapp	Den.	10	80	8.0	28	0
Haynes	Pitt.	15	78	5.2	13	0
Minor	Mia.	19	74	3.9	9	0
Lee	Oak.	21	72	3.4	13	2
Nash	Den.	18	66	3.7	26	0
Harrison	Clev.	20	60	3.0	15	0
Green	K.C.	19	59	3.1	10	0
C. Perry	Cin.	10	57	5.7	18	0
J. Johnson	Cin.	15	56	3.7	15	1
Mughelli	Balt.	12	50	4.2	12	0
Rivers	S.D.	48	49	1.0	15	0
Anderson	Clev.	4	47	11.8	33	0
Blaylock	N.Y.J.	25	44	1.8	6	0
Leftwich	Jax.	25	41	1.6	7	2
Palmer	Cin.	26	37	1.4	11	0
Manning	Ind.	23	36	1.6	12	4
Boller	Balt.	22	34	1.5	10	0
R. Williams	Jax.	7	33	4.7	10	0
Northcutt	Clev.	3	32	10.7	16	0
Ward	Pitt.	2	30	15.0	21	0
Johnson	Den.	5	30	6.0	15	0
Walter	Oak.	14	30	2.1	12	0
Tuiasosopo	Oak.	4	29	7.3	11	0
Dwight	N.Y.J.	2	28	14.0	28	0
Suggs	Mia.	6	26	4.3	7	0
Gray	Jax.	2	26	13.0	17	2
Pinnock	S.D.	4	25	6.3	15	0
Cotchery	N.Y.J.	5	25	5.0	10	0
C. Johnson	Cin.	6	24	4.0	8	0
De. Brown	K.C.	10	24	2.4	7	0
Harrington	Mia.	19	24	1.3	7	0
Toefield	Jax.	10	22	2.2	12	0
Jackson	N.E.	4	22	5.5	14	0
Hall	Ten.	7	21	3.0	11	0
Pass	N.E.	6	21	3.5	6	0
Culpepper	Mia.	10	20	2.0	7	1
Booker	Mia.	3	19	6.3	18	0

Parker	S.D.	2	19	9.5	18	0
Cruz	K.C.	5	19	3.8	7	0
Parrish	Buff.	2	18	9.0	11	0
Price	Buff.	5	18	3.6	9	0
T. Brown	N.E.	2	18	9.0	16	0
Cook	Hou.	3	18	6.0	14	0
Kuhn	Pitt.	2	18	9.0	16	0
Cutler	Den.	12	18	1.5	9	0
Kennison	K.C.	4	16	4.0	9	0
Jackson	S.D.	3	16	5.3	8	0
Batch	Pitt.	13	15	1.2	12	0
Coles	N.Y.J.	2	14	7.0	15	0
Wilson	Pitt.	2	14	7.0	14	0
T. Smith	Clev.	8	14	1.8	3	0
A. Johnson	Hou.	3	14	4.7	18	0
Scaife	Ten.	1	13	13.0	13	1
Reed	Buff.	4	13	3.3	15	0
Whitehurst	S.D.	2	13	6.5	14	1
Holmes	Pitt.	1	13	13.0	13	0
Marshall	Den.	2	12	6.0	6	0
D. Hall	K.C.	3	11	3.7	9	0
Cribbs	Clev.	2	11	5.5	9	0
Askew	N.Y.J.	6	11	1.8	5	0
Clemens	N.Y.J.	2	10	5.0	8	0

Excludes players who gained less than 10 yards.

## NFC RUSHING

	Team	Att	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Gore	S.F.	312	1,695	5.4	72	8
Barber	N.Y.G.	327	1,662	5.1	55	5
Jackson	St.L.	346	1,528	4.4	59	13
Westbrook	Phil.	240	1,217	5.1	71	7
C. Taylor	Minn.	303	1,216	4.0	95	6
Jones	Chi.	296	1,210	4.1	30	6
James	Ariz.	337	1,159	3.4	18	6
Betts	Wash.	245	1,154	4.7	26	4
Dunn	Atl.	286	1,140	4.0	90	4
J. Jones	Dall.	267	1,084	4.1	77	4
Green	G.B.	266	1,059	4.0	70	5
McAllister	N.O.	244	1,057	4.3	57	10
Vick	Atl.	123	1,039	8.4	51	2
Foster	Car.	227	897	4.0	43	3
Alexander	Sea.	252	896	3.6	33	7
C. Williams	T.B.	225	798	3.5	38	1
K. Jones	Det.	181	689	3.8	52	6
Barber	Dall.	135	654	4.8	25	14
Benson	Chi.	157	647	4.1	30	6
Norwood	Atl.	99	633	6.4	78	2
Morris	Sea.	161	604	3.8	29	0
Bush	N.O.	155	565	3.6	18	6
Portis	Wash.	127	523	4.1	38	7
D. Williams	Car.	121	501	4.1	31	1
Morency	Hou.-G.B.	96	434	4.5	39	2
Jacobs	N.Y.G.	96	423	4.4	16	9
Buckhalter	Phil.	83	345	4.2	20	2
Pittman	T.B.	50	245	4.9	32	1
McNabb	Phil.	32	212	6.6	37	3
Pinner	Minn.	43	190	4.4	21	3
Davis	St.L.	40	177	4.4	16	0
Alstott	T.B.	60	171	2.9	17	3
Gradkowski	T.B.	41	161	3.9	14	0
A. Harris	Det.	49	158	3.2	20	1
Kitna	Det.	34	156	4.6	18	2
Herron	G.B.	37	150	4.1	19	1
Strong	Sea.	33	149	4.5	17	1
A. Smith	S.F.	44	147	3.3	22	2
Duckett	Wash.	38	132	3.5	19	2
Moore	Minn.	24	131	5.5	15	0
Wallace	Sea.	12	122	10.2	37	0
Randle El	Wash.	19	118	6.2	20	0
Robinson	S.F.	38	116	3.1	33	2
Hasselbeck	Sea.	18	110	6.1	19	0
J. Campbell	Wash.	24	107	4.5	15	0
Griffith	Atl.	19	106	5.6	21	1
Romo	Dall.	34	102	3.0	16	0
Fason	Minn.	18	99	5.5	15	1
Cason	Det.	24	94	3.9	16	0
Gilmore	S.F.	7	94	13.4	22	0
Garcia	Phil.	25	87	3.5	12	0
Moss	Wash.	7	82	11.7	35	0
Hicks	S.F.	29	82	2.8	9	0
Br. Johnson	Minn.	29	82	2.8	10	1
T. Jackson	Minn.	15	77	5.1	13	1
Hoover	Car.	22	73	3.3	17	1
Moats	Phil.	22	69	3.1	13	0
Smith	Car.	8	61	7.6	24	1
Graham	T.B.	11	59	5.4	17	0
Goings	Car.	11	52	4.7	28	0
Sellers	Wash.	12	51	4.3	13	0
Leinart	Ariz.	22	49	2.2	14	2
Bulger	St.L.	18	44	2.4	29	0
Shipp	Ariz.	17	41	2.4	9	4
Peterson	Chi.	10	41	4.1	11	2
Clayton	T.B.	5	41	8.2	27	0

Ayanbadejo	Ariz.	9	37	4.1	11	0
Brunell	Wash.	13	34	2.6	12	0
Karney	N.O.	11	33	3.0	8	1
Brees	N.O.	42	32	0.8	16	0
Branch	Sea.	4	30	7.5	19	0
Thompson	Dall.	13	30	2.3	7	1
Stovall	T.B.	2	29	14.5	18	0
Branch	N.O.	10	29	2.9	9	0
Favre	G.B.	23	29	1.3	14	1
Bledsoe	Dall.	8	28	3.5	11	2
Boldin	Ariz.	5	28	5.6	18	0
Battle	S.F.	5	25	5.0	18	0
R. Brown	Phil.	3	24	8.0	15	1
Shelton	Car.	8	23	2.9	9	0
Morton	N.Y.G.	1	22	22.0	22	0
Manning	N.Y.G.	25	21	0.8	9	0
Schaub	Atl.	7	21	3.0	19	0
Arrington	Ariz.	14	19	1.4	9	0
Calhoun	Det.	7	19	2.7	7	0
Turk	St.L.	2	19	9.5	16	0
McKie	Chi.	8	18	2.3	7	0
Polite	Dall.	7	18	2.6	4	0
Carter	Car.	2	18	9.0	11	0
Mahe	Phil.	4	18	4.5	11	0
Weinke	Car.	4	16	4.0	13	0
Driver	G.B.	7	16	2.3	16	0
Cartwright	Wash.	5	15	3.0	9	0
Finn	N.Y.G.	2	14	7.0	12	0
Henderson	N.O.	2	14	7.0	11	1
Looker	St.L.	1	13	13.0	13	0
Delhomme	Car.	18	12	0.7	12	0
McAfee	N.O.	3	12	4.0	6	1
Richardson	Minn.	5	12	2.4	3	0
Jennings	N.Y.G.	2	12	6.0	21	0
A. Rodgers	G.B.	2	11	5.5	6	0
T. Glenn	Dall.	3	11	3.7	22	0
Stecker	N.O.	4	11	2.8	4	0
Warner	Ariz.	13	3	0.2	9	0
Grossman	Chi.	24	2	0.1	22	0

Excludes players who gained less than 10 yards and had fewer than 10 carries.

## AFC RECEIVING



Heiden	Clev.	36	249	6.9	13	2
Washington	Pitt.	35	624	17.8	49	4
Reed	Buff.	34	410	12.1	52	2
Miller	Pitt.	34	393	11.6	87	5
Daniels	Hou.	34	352	10.4	33	5
Wade	Ten.	33	461	14.0	25	2
Brown	Mia.	33	276	8.4	24	0
Lundy	Hou.	33	204	6.2	15	0
Baker	N.Y.J.	31	300	9.7	28	4
Parker	Pitt.	31	222	7.2	25	3
Gabriel	N.E.-Oak.	30	428	14.3	45	3
Clark	Ind.	30	367	12.2	40	4
Scaife	Ten.	29	370	12.8	34	2
R. Williams	Oak.	28	293	10.5	28	0
Jackson	S.D.	27	453	16.8	55	6
B. Jones	Ten.	27	384	14.2	53	4
Whitted	Oak.	27	299	11.1	33	0
Droughns	Clev.	27	169	6.3	24	0
D. Hall	K.C.	26	204	7.8	19	2
Anderson	Oak.	25	265	11.4	35	2
L. Washington	N.Y.J.	25	270	10.8	64	0
T. Bell	Den.	24	115	4.8	16	0
McCareins	N.Y.J.	23	347	15.1	50	1
Parrish	Buff.	23	320	13.9	51	2
Taylor	Jax.	23	242	10.5	36	1
Royal	Buff.	23	233	10.1	33	3
Watson	Cin.	23	213	9.3	46	0
R. Johnson	Cin.	23	124	5.4	18	0
Williams	Balt.	22	396	18.0	77	2
Northcutt	Clev.	22	228	10.4	43	0
Maroney	N.E.	22	194	8.8	31	1
A. Thomas	Buff.	22	139	6.3	18	0
Mu. Smith	Balt.	22	135	6.1	30	0
Kelly	Cin.	21	254	12.1	32	1
Graham	N.E.	21	235	11.2	29	2
Hagan	Mia.	21	221	10.5	24	1
Mughelli	Balt.	21	182	8.7	30	2
Morris	Mia.	21	162	7.7	44	0
Marshall	Den.	20	309	15.5	71	2
Wilcox	Balt.	20	166	8.3	35	3
M. Bell	Den.	20	158	7.9	24	0
Lee	Oak.	20	138	6.9	15	0
Scheffler	Den.	18	286	15.9	29	4
Fletcher	Ind.	18	202	11.2	26	2
S. Alexander	Den.	18	160	8.9	24	2
McGahee	Buff.	18	156	8.7	56	0
J. Lewis	Balt.	18	115	6.4	15	0
Cook	Hou.	18	107	5.9	15	0
Haynes	Pitt.	18	95	5.3	16	0
Henry	Ten.	18	78	4.3	12	0
Walter	Hou.	17	160	9.4	15	0
Gado	G.B.-Hou.	17	85	5.0	19	0
Neal	S.D.	17	83	4.9	21	0
Peelle	Mia.	16	116	7.3	25	1
Dwight	N.Y.J.	16	112	7.0	15	0
Floyd	S.D.	15	210	14.0	46	3
Davenport	Pitt.	15	193	12.9	32	1
Dillon	N.E.	15	147	9.8	52	0
Hall	Ten.	15	138	9.2	28	0
Wilson	K.C.	15	132	8.8	19	3
Stewart	Cin.	14	120	8.6	26	1
Manumaleuna	S.D.	14	91	6.5	19	3
Dayne	Hou.	14	77	5.5	13	0
White	Ten.	14	60	4.3	13	0
Jackson	N.E.	13	152	11.7	35	3
Troupe	Ten.	13	150	11.5	32	2
Lewis	Jax.	13	126	9.7	31	1
Putzier	Hou.	13	125	9.6	26	0
Fargas	Oak.	13	91	7.0	21	0
D. Thomas	N.E.	11	159	14.5	36	1
Madsen	Oak.	11	146	13.3	57	1
Gaffney	N.E.	11	142	12.9	33	1
Cribbs	Clev.	10	91	9.1	14	0
Jordan	Oak.	10	74	7.4	21	0
Crockett	Oak.	10	53	5.3	14	0
Kircus	Den.	9	187	20.8	45	0
Washington	Cin.	9	115	12.8	22	1
M. Bennett	K.C.	9	77	8.6	14	0
Bruener	Hou.	9	62	6.9	25	2
B. Smith	N.Y.J.	9	61	6.8	19	0
Anderson	Balt.	9	54	6.0	13	0
Askew	N.Y.J.	9	50	5.6	12	0
Harrison	Clev.	9	47	5.2	12	0
C. Perry	Cin.	9	42	4.7	12	0
Williams	Ten.	8	121	15.1	20	0
Givens	Ten.	8	104	13.0	27	0
Stokley	Ind.	8	85	10.6	23	1
Moorehead	Ind.	8	82	10.3	36	1
Kreider	Pitt.	8	62	7.8	15	0
Sapp	Den.	8	34	4.3	9	0
T. Smith	Clev.	8	21	2.6	7	0
Tuman	Pitt.	7	73	10.4	21	1
Morant	Oak.	7	70	10.0	18	0
Houston	N.Y.J.	7	43	6.1	11	0

Johnson	Den.	7	37	5.3	20	1
Shelton	Buff.	7	35	5.0	14	0
Evans	N.E.	7	34	4.9	11	1
Barlow	N.Y.J.	7	21	3.0	8	0
Wright	Clev.	6	82	13.7	54	0
Hartsock	Ten.	6	68	11.3	23	0
Leach	G.B.-Hou.	6	61	10.2	19	1
Vickers	Clev.	6	60	10.0	29	0
Cieslak	Buff.	6	46	7.7	13	0
Ryan	N.Y.J.	6	44	7.3	10	0
J. Johnson	Cin.	6	37	6.2	17	0
Perry	Cin.	5	81	16.2	30	0
N. Jackson	Den.	5	49	9.8	24	0
Hankton	Jax.	5	48	9.6	15	0
Brady	Jax.	5	37	7.4	13	0
Blaylock	N.Y.J.	5	29	5.8	9	0
Nash	Den.	4	41	10.3	13	0
Dunn	K.C.	4	40	10.0	15	0
Wimbush	Jax.	4	23	5.8	9	0
J. Green	Balt.	4	17	4.3	12	0
Turner	S.D.	3	47	15.7	30	0
Taylor	Hou.	3	40	13.3	24	0
Proehl	Ind.	3	30	10.0	13	0
Webb	K.C.	3	23	7.7	11	0
Shepherd	Hou.	3	22	7.3	8	0
Chatman	Cin.	3	22	7.3	10	0
Barnes	Mia.	3	22	7.3	13	0
Minor	Mia.	3	2	0.7	4	0
Wilson	Clev.	2	32	16.0	16	0
P. Jones	Ten.	2	31	15.5	17	0
Morey	Pitt.	2	29	14.5	15	0
Roby	Ten.	2	28	14.0	21	0
Pass	N.E.	2	24	12.0	16	0
Mustard	Den.	2	23	11.5	14	0
Cruz	K.C.	2	20	10.0	11	0
Gardner	K.C.	2	17	8.5	13	0
Sypniewski	Balt.	2	15	7.5	9	0
Dinkins	Clev.	2	14	7.0	11	1
C. Russell	Mia.	2	14	7.0	9	0
Andre' Davis	Buff.	2	13	6.5	8	0
Pearman	Jax.	2	12	6.0	7	0
Hodgins	N.Y.J.	2	9	4.5	6	0
Cramer	Ten.	2	8	4.0	6	0
Childress	N.E.	2	7	3.5	5	0
C. Brown	Ten.	2	4	2.0	4	0
Moore	Balt.	2	1	0.5	4	1
Huard	K.C.	2	-6	-3.0	-2	0
D. Anderson	Hou.	1	27	27.0	27	0
Porter	Oak.	1	19	19.0	19	0
Young	Pitt.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Kuhn	Pitt.	1	15	15.0	15	0
Suggs	Mia.	0	13	0.0	13	0

Excludes players with one catch and less than 10 yards.

## NFC RECEIVING

	Team	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Furrey	Det.	98	1,086	11.1	31	6
Holt	St.L.	93	1,188	12.8	67	10
Driver	G.B.	92	1,295	14.1	82	8
Jackson	St.L.	90	806	9.0	64	3
Bush	N.O.	88	742	8.4	74	2
Owens	Dall.	85	1,180	13.9	56	13
Boldin	Ariz.	83	1,203	14.5	64	4
Smith	Car.	83	1,166	14.0	72	8
R. Williams	Det.	82	1,310	16.0	60	7
Westbrook	Phil.	77	699	9.1	52	4
Bruce	St.L.	74	1,098	14.8	45	3
T. Glenn	Dall.	70	1,047	15.0	54	6
Colston	N.O.	70	1,038	14.8	86	8
Johnson	Car.	70	815	11.6	40	4
Fitzgerald	Ariz.	69	946	13.7	57	6
Shockey	N.Y.G.	66	623	9.4	25	7
Witten	Dall.	64	754	11.8	42	1
Burrese	N.Y.G.	63	988	15.7	55	10
Jackson	Sea.	63	956	15.2	72	10
Galloway	T.B.	62	1,057	17.0	64	7
K. Jones	Det.	61	520	8.5	26	2
Gore	S.F.	61	485	8.0	39	1
Muhammad	Chi.	60	863	14.4	40	5
Battle	S.F.	59	686	11.6	56	3
Barber	N.Y.G.	58	465	8.0	28	0
Cooley	Wash.	57	734	12.9	66	6
T. Taylor	Minn.	57	651	11.4	36	3
Crumpler	Atl.	56	780	13.9	46	8
Moss	Wash.	55	790	14.4	68	6
Branch	Sea.	53	725	13.7	38	4
Betts	Wash.	53	445	8.4	34	1
Berrian	Chi.	51	775	15.2	62	6
Smith	Phil.	50	611	12.2	65	5
Pittman	T.B.	47	405	8.6	25	0
R. Brown	Phil.	46	816	17.7	60	8
Moore	Minn.	46	468	10.2	50	1
Wiggins	Minn.	46	386	8.4	24	1

Green	G.B.	46	373	8.1	20	1
Jennings	G.B.	45	632	14.0	75	3
Clark	Chi.	45	626	13.9	33	6
Hackett	Sea.	45	610	13.6	47	4
C. Taylor	Minn.	42	288	6.9	24	0
Bry. Johnson	Ariz.	40	740	18.5	58	4
Bryant	S.F.	40	733	18.3	72	3
Curtis	St.L.	40	479	12.0	42	4
Jenkins	Atl.	39	436	11.2	34	7
Stallworth	Phil.	38	725	19.1	84	5
James	Ariz.	38	217	5.7	14	0
Horn	N.O.	37	679	18.4	72	4
Williamson	Minn.	37	455	12.3	46	0
Crayton	Dall.	36	516	14.3	53	4
Jones	Chi.	36	154	4.3	21	0
Smith	T.B.	35	250	7.1	27	3
Hilliard	T.B.	34	339	10.0	44	2
E. Johnson	S.F.	34	292	8.6	26	2
Clayton	T.B.	33	356	10.8	27	1
D. Williams	Car.	33	313	9.5	41	1
Henderson	N.O.	32	745	23.3	76	5
Toomer	N.Y.G.	32	360	11.3	44	3
Randle El	Wash.	32	351	11.0	34	3
Foster	Car.	32	159	5.0	14	0
White	Atl.	30	506	16.9	55	0
McAllister	N.O.	30	198	6.6	24	0
C. Williams	T.B.	30	196	6.5	21	0
M. Robinson	Minn.	29	381	13.1	40	4
Herron	G.B.	29	211	7.3	16	2
Strong	Sea.	29	159	5.5	13	0
Lelie	Atl.	28	430	15.4	51	1
Carter	Car.	28	357	12.8	42	3
Franks	G.B.	25	232	9.3	19	0
McKie	Chi.	25	162	6.5	26	0
G. Lewis	Phil.	24	348	14.5	45	2
Engram	Sea.	24	290	12.1	25	1
Buckhalter	Phil.	24	256	10.7	55	1
Copper	N.O.	23	385	16.7	48	3
Lloyd	Wash.	23	365	15.9	52	0
McMullen	Minn.	23	307	13.3	40	2
Walters	Ariz.	23	209	9.1	26	2
Barber	Dall.	23	196	8.5	26	2
Griffith	Atl.	23	168	7.3	16	3
Basket	Phil.	22	464	21.1	89	2
Davis	Chi.	22	303	13.8	31	2
Carter	N.Y.G.	22	253	11.5	27	2
Stevens	Sea.	22	231	10.5	26	4
Dunn	Atl.	22	170	7.7	18	1
R. Martin	G.B.	21	358	17.0	36	1
Campbell	Det.	21	308	14.7	30	4
D. Martin	G.B.	21	198	9.4	23	2
Mangum	Car.	21	170	8.1	19	1
Alstott	T.B.	21	85	4.0	18	0
V. Davis	S.F.	20	265	13.3	52	3
Klopfenstein	St.L.	20	226	11.3	28	1
Hoover	Car.	20	122	6.1	16	0
Tyree	N.Y.G.	19	197	10.4	33	2
Stecker	N.O.	19	190	10.0	48	0
Burleson	Sea.	18	192	10.7	36	2
Campbell	N.O.	18	164	9.1	33	0
A. Harris	Det.	18	132	7.3	20	0
Becht	T.B.	18	115	6.4	13	1
Sellers	Wash.	18	105	5.8	15	1
Portis	Wash.	17	170	10.0	74	0
Hakim	Det.	17	147	8.6	23	0
Ayanbadejo	Ariz.	17	139	8.2	27	0
Morency	Hou.-G.B.	17	118	6.9	29	0
Pope	Ariz.	16	161	10.1	33	0
Tapeh	Phil.	16	85	5.3	15	1
Gaines	Car.	15	146	9.7	19	0
Bergen	Ariz.	15	111	7.4	17	1
Karney	N.O.	15	96	6.4	12	2
Bradley	Chi.	14	282	20.1	75	3
Schobel	Phil.	14	214	15.3	60	2
Bradford	Det.	14	164	11.7	23	0
To. Fisher	St.L.	14	159	11.4	49	0
Miller	N.O.	14	129	9.2	22	0
Fasano	Dall.	14	126	9.0	22	0
Hicks	S.F.	13	137	10.5	33	1
McDonald	St.L.	13	136	10.5	28	1
Richardson	Minn.	13	111	8.5	25	0
Thrash	Wash.	12	151	12.6	27	1
Norwood	Atl.	12	102	8.5	32	0
Pollard	Det.	12	100	8.3	22	0
Davis	St.L.	12	90	7.5	18	1
Shiancoe	N.Y.G.	12	81	6.8	16	0
Henderson	G.B.	12	62	5.2	13	0
Alexander	Sea.	12	48	4.0	14	0
Jacobs	N.Y.G.	11	149	13.5	43	0
Morris	Sea.	11	46	4.2	27	0
Lee	G.B.	10	150	15.0	32	0
Goings	Car.	10	107	10.7	23	1
Mili	Sea.	10	69	6.9	15	0
Be. Johnson	Minn.	9	156	17.3	40	0



J. Jones	Dall.	9	142	15.8	39	0
Holiday	Ariz.-G.B.	9	126	14.0	35	0
Miree	G.B.	9	57	6.3	20	0
Robinson	S.F.	9	47	5.2	12	0
Gilmore	S.F.	8	150	18.8	75	1
M. Williams	Det.	8	99	12.4	21	1
Bryson	Det.	8	98	12.3	37	1
Arrington	Ariz.	8	58	7.3	19	0
Conwell	N.O.	8	57	7.1	15	1
Finn	N.Y.G.	8	54	6.8	11	0
Benson	Chi.	8	54	6.8	22	0
Dugan	Minn.	8	40	5.0	10	1
Schlesinger	Det.	8	36	4.5	6	0
Stovall	T.B.	7	102	14.6	27	0
Robinson	G.B.	7	89	12.7	24	0
FitzSimmons	Det.	7	71	10.1	18	0
Avant	Phil.	7	68	9.7	18	1
Kleinsasser	Minn.	7	47	6.7	14	0
Hedgecock	St.L.	7	29	4.1	7	0
Jones	N.O.	6	108	18.0	41	1
Peterson	Chi.	6	88	14.7	37	0
Blakley	Atl.	6	76	12.7	28	0
Shipp	Ariz.	6	60	10.0	22	0
Owens	Minn.	6	45	7.5	16	1
Gilmore	Chi.	6	38	6.3	18	2
Hurd	Dall.	5	75	15.0	33	0
Walker	St.L.	5	68	13.6	26	0
Warren	T.B.	5	63	12.6	26	0
Colbert	Car.	5	56	11.2	16	0
Jennings	N.Y.G.	5	49	9.8	20	0
Norris	S.F.	5	36	7.2	32	2
Ferguson	G.B.	5	31	6.2	10	1
Cason	Det.	5	26	5.2	14	0
Moss	N.Y.G.	5	25	5.0	10	0
Mahe	Phil.	5	23	4.6	8	0
Branch	N.O.	5	14	2.8	7	1
Gage	Chi.	4	68	17.0	34	0
Owens	N.O.	4	44	11.0	25	0
Ellis	Det.	4	41	10.3	19	0
Reid	Chi.	4	37	9.3	19	0
Nance	Minn.	4	33	8.3	12	0
Heller	Sea.	4	32	8.0	12	1
Spurlock	Ariz.	4	31	7.8	15	0
Jacobs	S.F.	4	29	7.3	10	0
Biddle	Car.	3	37	12.3	22	0
Hankton	Car.	3	31	10.3	18	0
McHugh	Det.	3	25	8.3	11	0
Fason	Minn.	3	19	6.3	12	0
McCraty	Atl.	3	13	4.3	7	1
Byrd	St.L.	2	39	19.5	27	1
Walker	S.F.	2	30	15.0	29	0
Wakefield	Ariz.	2	24	12.0	19	0
Polite	Dall.	2	21	10.5	12	0
Calhoun	Det.	2	20	10.0	18	0
Fauria	Wash.	2	17	8.5	11	0
Duckett	Wash.	2	16	8.0	19	0
Francies	G.B.	2	16	8.0	12	0
Pinner	Minn.	2	15	7.5	8	0
McCown	Det.	2	15	7.5	8	0
Drummond	Det.	2	10	5.0	8	0
Hoyte	Dall.	2	10	5.0	6	0
Hetherington	S.F.	2	0	0.0	0	0
Patten	Wash.	1	25	25.0	25	0
Bronson	Ariz.	1	25	25.0	25	0
Lawrie	N.O.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Parry	Sea.	1	11	11.0	11	0
McIntyre	N.O.	1	10	10.0	10	0
L. Moore	N.O.	1	10	10.0	10	0
Harris	St.L.	1	10	10.0	10	0

Excludes players with one catch and less than 10 yards.

## AFC SCORING

	Team	TD	XP/att	FG/att	2XP	Pts
Tomlinson	S.D.	31	0/0	0/0	0	186
Kaeding	S.D.	0	58/58	26/29	0	136
Stover	Balt.	0	37/37	28/30	0	121
Scobee	Jax.	0	41/41	26/32	0	119
Elam	Den.	0	34/34	27/29	0	115
Graham	Cin.	0	40/42	25/30	0	115
L. Johnson	K.C.	19	0/0	0/0	0	114
Vinateri	Ind.	0	38/38	25/28	0	113
Tynes	K.C.	0	35/36	24/31	0	107
Nugent	N.Y.J.	0	34/35	24/27	0	106
Gostkowski	N.E.	0	43/44	20/26	0	103
Lindell	Buff.	0	33/33	23/25	0	102
Reed	Pitt.	0	41/41	20/27	0	101
Mare	Mia.	0	22/22	26/36	0	100
Bironas	Ten.	0	32/32	22/28	0	98
Jones-Drew	Jax.	16	0/0	0/0	0	96
Parker	Pitt.	16	0/0	0/0	0	96
Dawson	Clev.	0	25/25	21/29	0	88
K. Brown	Hou.	0	26/27	19/25	0	83
Dillon	N.E.	13	0/0	0/0	0	78

Harrison	Ind.	12	0/0	0/0	0	72
R. Johnson	Cin.	12	0/0	0/0	0	72
Janikowski	Oak.	0	16/16	18/25	0	70
Wayne	Ind.	9	0/0	0/0	1	56
Gates	S.D.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Henry	Cin.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Houshmandzadeh	Cin.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
J. Lewis	Balt.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Walker	Den.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Addai	Ind.	8	0/0	0/0	0	48
M. Bell	Den.	8	0/0	0/0	0	48
Evans	Buff.	8	0/0	0/0	0	48
Henry	Ten.	7	0/0	0/0	1	44
Young	Ten.	7	0/0	0/0	1	44
C. Johnson	Cin.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
Maroney	N.E.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
Booker	Mia.	6	0/0	0/0	2	40
Jackson	S.D.	6	0/0	0/0	1	38
Barlow	N.Y.J.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Coles	N.Y.J.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Cotchery	N.Y.J.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Edwards	Clev.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Heap	Balt.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
McGahee	Buff.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Taylor	Jax.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Ward	Pitt.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Dayne	Hou.	5	0/0	0/0	1	32
Gonzalez	K.C.	5	0/0	0/0	1	32
Brown	Mia.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Clayton	Balt.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Daniels	Hou.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Houston	N.Y.J.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
A. Johnson	Hou.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Kennison	K.C.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Miller	Pitt.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Rhodes	Ind.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
T. Brown	N.E.	4	0/0	0/0	1	26
Caldwell	N.E.	4	0/0	0/0	1	26
Lundy	Hou.	4	0/0	0/0	1	26
Baker	N.Y.J.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Chambers	Mia.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Clark	Ind.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Droughns	Clev.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
B. Jones	Ten.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
P. Jones	Ten.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
M. Jones	Jax.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Manning	Ind.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Scheffler	Den.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Washington	Pitt.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
L. Washington	N.Y.J.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
R. Williams	Jax.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Bennett	Ten.	3	0/0	0/0	1	20
Faulk	N.E.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Floyd	S.D.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Frye	Clev.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Gabriel	Oak.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
D. Hall	K.C.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Holmes	Pitt.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Jackson	N.E.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Jurevicius	Clev.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Manumaleuna	S.D.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
McMichael	Mia.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Moss	Oak.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Parrish	Buff.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Price	Buff.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Royal	Buff.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Scalfe	Ten.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Smith	Den.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Watson	N.E.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Wilcox	Balt.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Wilson	K.C.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Winslow	Clev.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Wright	Jax.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
S. Alexander	Den.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Anderson	Oak.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
T. Bell	Den.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Bruener	Hou.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Carr	Hou.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Davenport	Pitt.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Fletcher	Ind.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Fletcher-Baker	Buff.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Graham	N.E.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Gray	Jax.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Heiden	Clev.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Holly	Clev.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Jordan	Oak.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Lee	Oak.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Leftwich	Jax.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Marshall	Den.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Mason	Balt.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
McAlister	Balt.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Miller	N.Y.J.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Mughelli	Balt.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Reed	Buff.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Roethlisberger	Pitt.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12

Taylor	Mia.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
A. Thomas	Buff.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Troupe	Ten.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Turner	S.D.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Wade	Ten.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Wilford	Jax.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Williams	Balt.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Reed	Balt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	8
A. Thomas	Balt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	8
Anderson	Balt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Asomugha	Oak.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Bailey	Den.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
T. Brown	Ten.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Bulluck	Ten.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Carr	Oak.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Carthon	Ind.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Clements	Buff.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Cribbs	Clev.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Culpepper	Mia.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Curry	Oak.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Dinkins	Clev.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Dobbins	S.D.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Evans	N.E.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Faggins	Hou.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Fargas	Oak.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Finnegan	Ten.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Gado	Hou.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Gaffney	N.E.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hagan	Mia.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Harris	S.D.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hayden	Ind.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hill	Mia.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hobbs	N.E.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hobson	N.Y.J.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hope	Ten.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Johnson	Den.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
J. Johnson	Cin.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Kelly	Cin.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Kilmer	Cin.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Klecko	Ind.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Landry	Balt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Leach	Hou.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Lewis	Jax.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Losman	Buff.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Maddox	Hou.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Madsen	Oak.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McCareins	N.Y.J.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McCree	S.D.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McGee	Buff.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McNair	Balt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Moore	Balt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Moorehead	Ind.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Morris	Mia.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Morrison	Oak.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Moulds	Hou.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Neal	S.D.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Neufeld	Buff.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Parker	K.C.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Pearman	Jax.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Peelle	Mia.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Plummer	Den.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Pollard	K.C.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Porter	Pitt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Prude	Balt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Robinson	Hou.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Starks	Jax.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Stewart	Cin.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Stokley	Ind.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Taylor	Hou.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
D. Thomas	N.E.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Tuman	Pitt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Wallace	Pitt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Washington	Cin.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Watson	Cin.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Welker	Mia.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Whitehurst	S.D.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Wilkins	Ind.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Da. Williams	Den.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
S. Williams	Oak.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Wilson	Pitt.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Huff	Oak.	0	0/0	0/0	0	2
Warren	N.E.	0	0/0	0/0	0	2



## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Akers	Phil.	0	48/48	18/23	0	102
Kasay	Car.	0	28/28	24/27	0	100
Barber	Dall.	16	0/0	0/0	0	96
Jackson	St.L.	16	0/0	0/0	0	96
Longwell	Minn.	0	27/28	21/25	0	90
Andersen	Atl.	0	27/27	20/23	0	87
Owens	Dall.	13	0/0	0/0	1	80
Bryant	T.B.	0	22/23	17/22	0	73
Vanderjagt	Dall.	0	33/33	13/18	0	72
McAllister	N.O.	11	0/0	0/0	0	66
Westbrook	Phil.	11	0/0	0/0	0	66
Burruss	N.Y.G.	10	0/0	0/0	0	60
Holt	St.L.	10	0/0	0/0	0	60
Jackson	Sea.	10	0/0	0/0	0	60
R. Brown	Phil.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Bush	N.O.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Gore	S.F.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Jacobs	N.Y.G.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Smith	Car.	9	0/0	0/0	0	54
Colston	N.O.	8	0/0	0/0	0	48
Crumpler	Atl.	8	0/0	0/0	0	48
Driver	G.B.	8	0/0	0/0	0	48
K. Jones	Det.	8	0/0	0/0	0	48
Gramatica	Ind.-Dall.	0	23/23	7/9	0	44
Alexander	Sea.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
Galloway	T.B.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
Jenkins	Atl.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
Portis	Wash.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
Shockey	N.Y.G.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
R. Williams	Det.	7	0/0	0/0	0	42
Suisham	Dal.-Was.	0	14/14	9/11	0	41
Cooley	Wash.	6	0/0	0/0	1	38
Moss	Wash.	6	0/0	0/0	1	38
Benson	Chi.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Berrian	Chi.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Clark	Chi.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Fitzgerald	Ariz.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Furrey	Det.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
T. Glenn	Dall.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Green	G.B.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Hall	Wash.	0	9/9	9/11	0	36
Henderson	N.O.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Hester	Chi.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
James	Ariz.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Jones	Chi.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
C. Taylor	Minn.	6	0/0	0/0	0	36
Smith	Phil.	5	0/0	0/0	1	32
Barber	N.Y.G.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Betts	Wash.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Dunn	Atl.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Johnson	Car.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Muhammad	Chi.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Stallworth	Phil.	5	0/0	0/0	0	30
Horn	N.O.	4	0/0	0/0	1	26
Stevens	Sea.	4	0/0	0/0	1	26
Novak	Wash.	0	10/10	5/10	0	25
Boldin	Ariz.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Branch	Sea.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Campbell	Det.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Crayton	Dall.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Curtis	St.L.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Griffith	Atl.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Hackett	Sea.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Bry. Johnson	Ariz.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
J. Jones	Dall.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Randle El	Wash.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
M. Robinson	Minn.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Shipp	Ariz.	4	0/0	0/0	0	24
Bruce	St.L.	3	0/0	0/0	1	20
Alstott	T.B.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Battle	S.F.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Bradley	Chi.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Bryant	S.F.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Buckhalter	Phil.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Burleson	Sea.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Carter	Car.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Carter	N.Y.G.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Copper	N.O.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
V. Davis	S.F.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Foster	Car.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Herron	G.B.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Jennings	G.B.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Karney	N.O.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
McMullen	Minn.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
McNabb	Phil.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Pinner	Minn.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Smith	T.B.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
T. Taylor	Minn.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Toomer	N.Y.G.	3	0/0	0/0	0	18
Koenen	Atl.	0	4/4	3/9	0	13
Barber	T.B.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Baskett	Phil.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Bledsoe	Dall.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Davis	Chi.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Duckett	Wash.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12

Gilmore	Chi.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Hilliard	T.B.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
E. Johnson	S.F.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Kitna	Det.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Leinart	Ariz.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
G. Lewis	Phil.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
D. Martin	G.B.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Moore	Minn.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Morency	G.B.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Norris	S.F.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Norwood	Atl.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Peterson	Chi.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Robinson	S.F.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Schobel	Phil.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
A. Smith	S.F.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Tyree	N.Y.G.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Vick	Atl.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Walters	Ariz.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Ware	Dall.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
D. Williams	Car.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Wilson	Ariz.	2	0/0	0/0	0	12
Adeyanju	St.L.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Arrington	Ariz.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Avant	Phil.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Bartell	St.L.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Becht	T.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Bergen	Ariz.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Branch	N.O.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Brooks	T.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
M. Brown	Chi.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
S. Brown	Phil.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Bryson	Det.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Burnett	Dall.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Byrd	St.L.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Cartwright	Wash.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Clayton	T.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
T. Cole	Phil.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Collins	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Conwell	N.O.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Davis	St.L.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Deloatch	N.O.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Dendy	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Dockery	N.Y.G.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Dugan	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Engram	Sea.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Fason	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Favre	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Ferguson	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Fletcher	Det.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Gamble	Car.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Gilmore	S.F.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Goings	Car.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hall	Atl.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
A. Harris	Det.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
W. Harris	S.F.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Heller	Sea.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Henderson	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Herndon	Sea.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hicks	S.F.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hodge	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Hoover	Car.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
T. Jackson	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
James	Dall.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Br. Johnson	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Jones	N.O.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
King	Car.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Klopfenstein	St.L.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Leber	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Lolie	Atl.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
M. Lewis	Phil.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Mangum	Car.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
R. Manning	Chi.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Manuel	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Marshall	Car.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
R. Martin	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McAfee	N.O.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McCrary	Atl.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McDonald	St.L.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
McQuarters	N.Y.G.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Newman	Dall.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Oliver	S.F.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Owens	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Patterson	Phil.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Pittman	T.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Sellers	Wash.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Sheppard	Phil.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Simms	T.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Smith	Ariz.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Smoot	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Strong	Sea.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Tapeh	Phil.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Tapp	Sea.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Thompson	Dall.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Thrash	Wash.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Tillman	Chi.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Wiggins	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6

K. Williams	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
D. Williams	Atl.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
M. Williams	Det.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
C. Williams	T.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Winfield	Minn.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Witten	Dall.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Woodson	G.B.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Yoder	Wash.	1	0/0	0/0	0	6
Arrington	N.Y.G.	0	0/0	0/0	0	2
DeVries	Det.	0	0/0	0/0	0	2
Ta. Johnson	Chi.	0	0/0	0/0	0	2
Marshall	Wash.	0	0/0	0/0	0	2
Miller	N.O.	0	0/0	0/0	1	2
Romo	Dall.	0	0/0	0/0	1	2
Rucker	Car.	0	0/0	0/0	0	2

Team safety was credited to San Francisco.

## AFC INTERCEPTIONS

	Team	No	Yds	Lg	TD
Bailey	Den.	10	162	70	1
Samuel	N.E.	10	120	33	0
Mathis	Jax.	8	146	55	0
Asomugha	Oak.	8	59	24	1
McAlister	Balt.	6	121	60	2
Kaesviharn	Cin.	6	24	22	0
Holly	Clev.	5	127	57	1
Hope	Ten.	5	105	61	1
Landry	Balt.	5	101	37	1
Reed	Balt.	5	70	37	1
Jones	Clev.	5	46	19	0
P. Jones	Ten.	4	130	83	1
Jammer	S.D.	4	57	35	0
Rhodes	N.Y.J.	4	46	25	0
James	Cin.	4	44	28	0
Da. Williams	Den.	4	37	31	1
Fletcher-Baker	Buff.	4	30	17	1
Law	K.C.	4	11	16	0
Washington	Oak.	4	4	7	0
Dyson	N.Y.J.	4	-3	0	0
Clements	Buff.	3	80	58	1
Rolle	Balt.	3	60	44	0
Polamalu	Pitt.	3	51	49	0
Wesley	K.C.	3	39	29	0
McFadden	Pitt.	3	39	39	0
Hart	S.D.	3	37	22	0
M. Williams	Cin.	3	33	25	0
Page	K.C.	3	30	30	0
Florence	S.D.	3	24	23	0
Harper	Ind.	3	18	19	0
Thompson	Ten.	3	14	11	0
June	Ind.	3	14	8	0
Edwards	S.D.	3	11	8	0
Vrabel	N.E.	3	0	2	0
Barrett	N.Y.J.	3	0	0	0
Hobbs	N.E.	2	79	70	0
Simpson	Buff.	2	76	76	0
Taylor	Mia.	2	71	51	2
Prude	Balt.	2	66	54	1
Porter	Pitt.	2	49	42	1
Bodden	Clev.	2	48	35	0
Doss	Ind.	2	47	31	0
An. Smith	Pitt.	2	40	20	0
Taylor	Pitt.	2	34	34	0
Hill	Mia.	2	33	21	0
C. Scott	N.E.	2	32	32	0
Morrison	Oak.	2	32	31	0
Scott	Balt.	2	31	24	0
R. Lewis	Balt.	2	27	27	0
Grant	Jax.	2	25	24	0
Hill	Ten.	2	20	11	0
Davis	Clev.	2	19	19	0
David	Ind.	2	16	16	0
Robinson	Hou.	2	9	9	1
Sensabaugh	Jax.	2	8	8	0
Townsend	Pitt.	2	6	6	0
Simmons	Cin.	2	5	5	0
E. Smith	N.Y.J.	2	1	1	0
Crowell	Buff.	2	0	0	0
Faggins	Hou.	2	0	0	0
Carr	Oak.	1	100	100	1
Ngata	Balt.	1	60	60	0
Starks	Jax.	1	55	55	1
Kilmer	Cin.	1	52	52	1
Jackson	Cin.	1	46	46	0
Foxworth	Den.	1	45	45	0
O'Neal	Cin.	1	42	42	0
Bethlea	Ind.	1	38	38	0
Wallace	Pitt.	1	30	30	1
Knight	K.C.	1	27	27	0
Jackson	Ind.	1	24	24	0
Mitchell	K.C.	1	23	23	0
Sanders	N.E.	1	21	21	0
Weaver	Hou.	1	21	21	0
McClelon	Hou.	1	19	19	0
Cousin	Jax.	1	16	16	0
Ryans	Hou.	1	16	16	0



Peterson	Jax.	1	15	15	0
Sirmon	Ten.	1	13	13	0
Kriewaldt	Pitt.	1	12	12	0
Simmons	Hou.	1	11	11	0
W. Allen	Mia.	1	11	11	0
Foote	Pitt.	1	11	11	0
Baxter	Clev.	1	10	10	0
Whitner	Buff.	1	10	10	0
Merriman	S.D.	1	10	10	0
Hobson	N.Y.J.	1	9	9	0
Bruschi	N.E.	1	8	8	0
A. Thomas	Balt.	1	7	7	0
J. Allen	Mia.	1	7	7	0
Ellison	Buff.	1	7	7	0
Routt	Oak.	1	6	6	0
Russell	Clev.	1	6	6	0
Greisen	Jax.	1	6	6	0
Sands	Oak.	1	5	5	0
B. Williams	Jax.	1	4	4	0
Smith	Jax.	1	4	4	0
Allen	K.C.	1	3	3	0
E. Coleman	N.Y.J.	1	3	3	0
Earl	Hou.	1	2	2	0
L. Johnson	Cin.	1	2	2	0
Harrison	N.E.	1	2	2	0
Farrior	Pitt.	1	1	1	0
Castillo	S.D.	1	1	1	0
Webb	Jax.	1	1	1	0
Ingram	Jax.	1	0	0	0
CC. Brown	Hou.	1	0	0	0
Cox	Den.	1	0	0	0
Tulloch	Ten.	1	0	0	0
Giordano	Ind.	1	0	0	0
Pool	Clev.	1	0	0	0
Vilma	N.Y.J.	1	0	0	0
Sanders	Ind.	1	0	0	0
Hawkins	N.E.	1	0	0	0
McGinest	Clev.	1	0	0	0
Haggans	Pitt.	1	0	0	0
Bulluck	Ten.	1	0	0	0
Ivy	Balt.	1	0	0	0
Surtain	K.C.	1	0	0	0
Poole	Oak.	1	0	0	0
Boiman	Ind.	1	0	0	0
Ferguson	Den.	1	0	0	0
Seymour	N.E.	1	0	0	0
McCree	S.D.	1	0	0	0
Greenwood	Hou.	1	0	0	0
Clark	Pitt.	1	-1	-1	0
Daniels	Mia.	1	-2	-2	0
Thomas	Mia.	1	-4	-4	0
Hali	K.C.	1	-9	-9	0
Sapp	Balt.	0	1	1	0

## NFC INTERCEPTIONS

	Team	No	Yds	Lg	TD
W. Harris	S.F.	8	84	42	1
Woodson	G.B.	8	61	23	1
Sheppard	Phil.	6	157	102	1
R. Manning	Chi.	5	113	54	1
Williams	Dall.	5	33	27	0
Tillman	Chi.	5	32	13	0
Wilson	Ariz.	4	146	99	1
Hall	Atl.	4	131	60	1
D. Smith	Minn.	4	81	47	0
Dawkins	Phil.	4	38	38	0
Winfield	Minn.	4	33	26	1
Sharper	Minn.	4	10	10	0
Fletcher	Det.	3	122	88	1
Barber	T.B.	3	103	66	2
Collins	G.B.	3	68	55	1
Bartell	St.L.	3	63	38	1
Hamlin	Sea.	3	63	37	0
Marshall	Car.	3	59	30	1
Brooks	T.B.	3	51	21	1
Watkins	Dall.	3	45	24	0
Harris	G.B.	3	39	34	0
Urlacher	Chi.	3	38	36	0
Dendy	G.B.	3	37	30	1
Gamble	Car.	3	31	18	1
Griffith	Ariz.	3	30	23	0
Hayes	Ariz.	3	24	24	0
Harris	Minn.	3	20	11	0
Hill	St.L.	3	20	14	0
Brown	St.L.	3	17	20	0
Bly	Det.	3	13	8	0
Lucas	Car.	3	13	13	0
Vasher	Chi.	3	11	7	0
Holt	Det.	3	8	7	0
Atogwe	St.L.	3	8	7	0
M. Lewis	Phil.	2	105	84	1
Dockery	N.Y.G.	2	100	96	1
McQuarters	N.Y.G.	2	67	27	1
Francisco	Ariz.	2	61	44	0
McKenzie	N.O.	2	54	54	0
Henderson	Minn.	2	48	45	0

Phillips	T.B.	2	45	29	0
Boley	Atl.	2	44	40	0
Kiwanuka	N.Y.G.	2	44	32	0
Henry	Dall.	2	41	37	0
Carter	St.L.	2	39	36	0
Hawk	G.B.	2	31	25	0
Demps	N.Y.G.	2	30	29	0
Madison	N.Y.G.	2	28	24	0
D. Manning	Chi.	2	26	15	0
Wilson	N.Y.G.	2	25	25	0
Lewis	S.F.	2	24	24	0
A. Brown	Chi.	2	22	18	0
Fujita	N.O.	2	19	19	0
C. Harris	Chi.	2	19	16	0
Briggs	Chi.	2	18	18	0
Kennedy	Det.	2	17	17	0
Bullocks	N.O.	2	14	14	0
Robbins	N.Y.G.	2	12	11	0
Stoutmire	N.O.	2	10	10	0
Griffin	Minn.	2	4	4	0
Barnett	G.B.	2	3	3	0
Ayodele	Dall.	2	2	2	0
S. Williams	Car.	2	1	1	0
Boulware	Sea.	2	1	1	0
Coakley	St.L.	2	0	0	0
Buchanon	T.B.	2	0	0	0
Webster	Atl.	2	-2	3	0
S. Brown	Phil.	1	70	70	1
Macklin	Ariz.	1	56	56	0
Smoot	Minn.	1	47	47	1
C. Williams	S.F.	1	43	43	0
Ware	Dall.	1	41	41	1
Davis	Atl.	1	41	41	0
Burnett	Dall.	1	39	39	1
Manuel	G.B.	1	29	29	1
Crocker	Atl.	1	28	28	0
Roman	S.F.	1	27	27	0
Bolden	T.B.	1	27	27	0
Taylor	Wash.	1	25	25	0
Tapp	Sea.	1	25	25	1
Rolle	Ariz.	1	23	23	0
Poppinga	G.B.	1	21	21	0
Babineaux	Sea.	1	20	20	0
Tatupu	Sea.	1	19	19	0
T. Cole	Phil.	1	19	19	1
Chavous	St.L.	1	17	17	0
Trotter	Phil.	1	17	17	0
Gaither	Phil.	1	16	16	0
James	Dall.	1	15	15	1
Newman	Dall.	1	12	12	0
Considine	Phil.	1	12	12	0
Beisel	Ariz.	1	11	11	0
F. Thomas	N.O.	1	9	9	0
D. Williams	Atl.	1	9	9	0
Morton	Car.	1	8	8	0
A. Glenn	Dall.	1	7	7	0
Walker	Phil.	1	6	6	0
Pierce	N.Y.G.	1	6	6	0
Babineaux	Atl.	1	6	6	0
Springs	Wash.	1	4	4	0
Minter	Car.	1	3	3	0
Daniels	Wash.	1	0	0	0
Simoneau	N.O.	1	0	0	0
Craft	N.O.	1	0	0	0
Wright	Wash.	1	0	0	0
Leber	Minn.	1	0	0	0
Lenon	Det.	1	0	0	0
Branch	Car.	1	0	0	0
Herndon	Sea.	1	0	0	0
Webster	N.Y.G.	1	0	0	0
Rogers	Wash.	1	0	0	0
Spencer	S.F.	1	0	0	0
Trufant	Sea.	1	0	0	0
Lawson	S.F.	1	0	0	0
Jennings	Sea.	1	0	0	0
Dockett	Ariz.	1	-1	-1	0
Ellis	Dall.	1	-1	-1	0
Peterson	Sea.	1	-4	-4	0
Fox	Wash.	1	-4	-4	0
Bell	N.Y.G.	1	-7	-7	0
Ramsey	Phil.	1	-12	-12	0

## AFC KICKOFF RETURNS

	Team	No	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Miller	N.Y.J.	46	1,304	28.3	103	2
Maroney	N.E.	28	783	28.0	77	0
Jones-Drew	Jax.	31	860	27.7	93	1
Turner	S.D.	36	954	26.5	58	0
McGee	Buff.	52	1,355	26.1	88	0
P. Jones	Ten.	20	521	26.1	70	0
Sams	Balt.	30	772	25.7	72	0
Carr	Oak.	69	1,762	25.5	50	0
Cribbs	Clev.	61	1,494	24.5	92	1
Wilkins	Ind.	52	1,272	24.5	70	0
Wade	Ten.	50	1,194	23.9	48	0
D. Hall	K.C.	53	1,207	22.8	60	0

Clark	Den.	23	512	22.3	36	0
Welker	Mia.	48	1,064	22.2	46	0
Wynn	Phil.-Hou.	48	1,032	21.5	38	0
Davenport	Pitt.	21	448	21.3	40	0
C. Perry	Cin.	21	412	19.6	36	0

## NON-QUALIFIERS

Hobbs	N.E.	10	360	36.0	93	1
Rushing	Ind.	2	67	33.5	47	0
D. Anderson	Hou.	3	90	30.0	38	0
Cromartie	S.D.	10	297	29.7	91	0
Gordon	S.D.	2	55	27.5	32	0
Mathis	Hou.	7	192	27.4	87	0
MI. Smith	Balt.	1	27	27.0	27	0
Lewis	Hou.	1	27	27.0	27	0
Colclough	Pitt.	1	26	26.0	26	0
Morey	Pitt.	8	202	25.3	76	0
Morgan	Den.	17	423	24.9	64	0
Holt	Cin.	17	419	24.6	38	0
Holmes	Pitt.	18	436	24.2	42	0
Webb	K.C.	7	169	24.1	50	0
Sapp	Den.	4	95	23.8	53	0
Chatman	Cin.	4	93	23.3	31	0
Shepherd	Hou.	17	395	23.2	42	0
Wimbush	Jax.	8	181	22.6	33	0
Ross	Balt.	9	194	21.6	28	0
Faulk	N.E.	17	364	21.4	31	0
Sapp	K.C.	1	21	21.0	21	0
Jackson	N.E.	1	21	21.0	21	0
Watson	Cin.	10	198	19.8	34	0
Green	Cin.	3	59	19.7	21	0
M. Bell	Den.	5	97	19.4	22	0
Gado	G.B.-Hou.	3	57	19.0	23	0
Kircus	Den.	2	38	19.0	20	0
Reid	Pitt.	1	19	19.0	19	0
Pearman	Jax.	3	56	18.7	22	0
Taylor	Pitt.	4	72	18.0	23	0
Alexander	Hou.	1	18	18.0	18	0
Perry	Cin.	4	69	17.3	34	0
S. Williams	Buff.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Hodgins	N.Y.J.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Tr. Johnson	Hou.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Vickers	Clev.	5	84	16.8	22	0
Lundy	Hou.	4	67	16.8	23	0
Andre' Davis	Buff.	6	99	16.5	27	0
Scaife	Ten.	4	64	16.0	18	0
Dinkins	Clev.	3	44	14.7	20	0
Manumaleuna	S.D.	1	14	14.0	14	0
Ivy	Balt.	1	14	14.0	14	0
Johnson	Den.	1	14	14.0	14	0
White	Ten.	1	14	14.0	14	0
L. Washington	N.Y.J.	6	79	13.2	23	0
Chatham	N.Y.J.	2	26	13.0	20	0
Banta-Cain	N.E.	2	25	12.5	16	0
Cramer	Ten.	3	37	12.3	21	0
Lee	Oak.	4	49	12.3	17	0
Wilson	Pitt.	1	11	11.0	11	0
Heiden	Clev.	1	11	11.0	11	0
Sypniewski	Balt.	1	11	11.0	11	0
Bowens	Mia.	2	21	10.5	11	0
Carthon	Ind.	2	21	10.5	21	0
Stewart	Cin.	1	10	10.0	10	0
Parker	S.D.	2	19	9.5	12	0
J. Johnson	Balt.	3	28	9.3	14	0
Minor	Mia.	2	17	8.5	17	0
Baker	N.Y.J.	2	15	7.5	11	0
Preston	Buff.	2	10	5.0	9	0
Brady	Jax.	4	18	4.5	9	0
Neal	S.D.	3	11	3.7	7	0
Leonhard	Buff.	0	18	0.0	18	0
Wong	Hou.	0	17	0.0	17	0

Excludes players with less than 10 yards.



# INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Bly	Det.	1	27	27.0	27	0
Moore	Minn.	1	25	25.0	25	0
Walker	S.F.	1	25	25.0	25	0
Norwood	Atl.	13	320	24.6	37	0
Goings	Car.	9	218	24.2	33	0
B. Williams	S.F.	16	380	23.8	44	0
Elam	Dall.	4	95	23.8	26	0
Ellis	Det.	6	139	23.2	28	0
Williamson	Minn.	14	324	23.1	44	0
G. Lewis	Phil.	2	46	23.0	28	0
Furrey	Det.	1	23	23.0	23	0
Ferguson	G.B.	5	110	22.0	26	0
Jones	N.O.	6	130	21.7	29	0
Stecker	N.O.	10	216	21.6	31	0
Cox	T.B.	18	387	21.5	44	0
Moats	Phil.	2	43	21.5	23	0
Buchanan	Hou.-T.B.	5	106	21.2	28	0
Robinson	G.B.	12	253	21.1	31	0
Curtis	St.L.	9	188	20.9	28	0
Marshall	Car.	14	291	20.8	26	0
To. Fisher	St.L.	8	165	20.6	26	0
Reed	Atl.	17	346	20.4	40	0
McAfee	N.O.	1	20	20.0	20	0
D. Manning	Chi.	1	20	20.0	20	0
Copper	N.O.	4	79	19.8	25	0
Moss	N.Y.G.	10	194	19.4	33	0
Jacobs	N.Y.G.	3	58	19.3	28	0
Pinner	Minn.	4	76	19.0	24	0
Harris	St.L.	4	76	19.0	23	0
Perry	Phil.	3	57	19.0	24	0
Scobey	Sea.	17	315	18.5	33	0
Robinson	S.F.	4	73	18.3	19	0
Spurlock	Ariz.	3	54	18.0	21	0
Herron	G.B.	8	143	17.9	23	0
Jennings	Atl.	7	123	17.6	26	0
McQuarters	N.Y.G.	1	17	17.0	17	0
Peterson	Chi.	3	49	16.3	25	0
Bodiford	G.B.	5	81	16.2	22	0
Gaines	Car.	2	32	16.0	17	0
Sheppard	Phil.	1	16	16.0	16	0
Bry. Johnson	Ariz.	2	29	14.5	16	0
Montgomery	G.B.	1	14	14.0	14	0
Betts	Wash.	2	27	13.5	27	0
Sellers	Wash.	4	53	13.3	22	0
Rosenthal	Minn.	1	13	13.0	13	0
Graham	T.B.	1	13	13.0	13	0
N. Jones	Dall.	1	13	13.0	13	0
Hoover	Car.	3	37	12.3	21	0
Sowell	T.B.	1	11	11.0	11	0
McKie	Chi.	1	11	11.0	11	0
Henderson	G.B.	4	41	10.3	16	0
Woodson	G.B.	1	10	10.0	10	0

Thrash	Wash.	1	10	10.0	10	0
Karney	N.O.	1	10	10.0	10	0
McCrary	Atl.	2	17	8.5	10	0
A. Glenn	Dall.	3	24	8.0	14	0
Schobel	Phil.	2	13	6.5	11	0

Excludes players with less than 10 yards.

## AFC PUNT RETURNS

	Team	No	FC	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
P. Jones	Ten.	34	3	440	12.9	90	3
Parrish	Buff.	32	9	364	11.4	82	1
Northcutt	Clev.	28	13	312	11.1	81	0
Wynn	Phil.-Hou.	25	14	270	10.8	58	0
Faulk	N.E.	31	5	330	10.6	43	0
Sams	Balt.	29	4	307	10.6	65	0
Holmes	Pitt.	26	21	264	10.2	65	1
Welker	Mia.	41	29	378	9.2	47	0
Wilkins	Ind.	21	13	193	9.2	82	1
Parker	S.D.	37	15	331	8.9	50	0
D. Hall	K.C.	27	6	240	8.9	60	1
Pearman	Jax.	32	16	283	8.8	29	0
Da. Williams	Den.	25	12	206	8.2	34	0
Ratliff	Cin.	27	9	176	6.5	38	0
Carr	Oak.	35	12	216	6.2	35	0

### NON-QUALIFIERS

Jackson	N.E.	3	0	76	25.3	39	0
Kircus	Den.	6	4	86	14.3	42	0
Jones-Drew	Jax.	1	0	13	13.0	13	0
Reid	Pitt.	1	0	11	11.0	11	0
Dwight	N.Y.J.	14	9	146	10.4	18	0
O'Neal	Cin.	1	2	10	10.0	10	0
Wade	Ten.	3	3	27	9.0	18	0
Cribbs	Clev.	6	3	51	8.5	34	0
Leonhard	Buff.	7	1	58	8.3	32	0
Shepherd	Hou.	3	2	24	8.0	14	0
T. Brown	N.E.	2	9	16	8.0	12	0
Jones	Clev.	1	0	8	8.0	8	0
McCardell	S.D.	5	7	39	7.8	12	0
L. Washington	N.Y.J.	13	6	97	7.5	38	0
Rushing	Ind.	2	2	14	7.0	8	0
Chatman	Cin.	8	3	53	6.6	19	0
Owens	Jax.	9	5	56	6.2	13	0
Kennison	K.C.	3	1	18	6.0	11	0
Mathis	Jax.	2	1	9	4.5	9	0
Gordon	S.D.	3	1	12	4.0	6	0
Ivy	Balt.	2	0	7	3.5	7	0
Walls	K.C.	2	0	6	3.0	6	0
Ross	Balt.	13	3	37	2.8	9	0
Wilson	Pitt.	2	1	4	2.0	3	0
Colclough	Pitt.	4	0	6	1.5	3	0
Lewis	Hou.	0	2	0	0.0	0	0

Cotchery	N.Y.J.	0	2	0	0.0	0	0
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Excludes players with fewer than two combined returns and fair catches and less than three yards gained.

## NFC PUNT RETURNS

	Team	No	FC	Yds	Avg	Lg	TD
Hester	Chi.	47	12	600	12.8	84	3
Drummond	Det.	28	13	296	10.6	40	0
Walters	Ariz.	24	12	250	10.4	37	0
Moore	Minn.	36	9	365	10.1	71	1
Newman	Dall.	20	6	202	10.1	56	1
Burleson	Sea.	34	7	322	9.5	90	1
Morton	N.Y.G.	29	13	268	9.2	38	0
Woodson	G.B.	41	2	363	8.9	40	0
Randle El	Wash.	39	11	342	8.8	87	1
Rossum	Atl.	37	13	288	7.8	41	0
Jones	T.B.	20	4	155	7.8	18	0
Bush	N.O.	28	2	216	7.7	65	1
McDonald	St.L.	23	14	172	7.5	33	0
Hilliard	T.B.	24	3	163	6.8	16	0
B. Williams	S.F.	22	12	147	6.7	25	0
Gamble	Car.	36	13	185	5.1	24	0

### NON-QUALIFIERS

Ellis	Det.	4	1	61	15.3	48	0
Battle	S.F.	6	7	90	15.0	60	0
Bly	Det.	3	3	39	13.0	36	0
Mahe	Phil.	18	12	169	9.4	23	0
D. Smith	Minn.	1	0	8	8.0	8	0
Westbrook	Phil.	5	3	39	7.8	13	0
Crayton	Dall.	11	7	85	7.7	19	0
L. Moore	N.O.	6	2	45	7.5	25	0
J. Williams	Sea.	14	9	102	7.3	22	0
Lewis	N.O.	16	10	111	6.9	26	0
Buchanan	Hou.-T.B.	14	4	95	6.8	45	0
Looker	St.L.	7	6	47	6.7	10	0
Jennings	G.B.	5	0	29	5.8	10	0
Rector	Dall.	4	1	22	5.5	8	0
Biddle	Car.	2	1	11	5.5	11	0
Green	Dall.	5	3	26	5.2	13	0
McQuarters	N.Y.G.	4	2	20	5.0	12	0
Bodiford	G.B.	6	1	25	4.2	16	0
Berrian	Chi.	2	0	7	3.5	7	0
Barber	T.B.	2	0	7	3.5	8	0
Smith	Car.	9	3	30	3.3	16	0
Galloway	T.B.	2	0	3	1.5	2	0
Bry. Johnson	Ariz.	1	1	0	0.0	0	0
Ponder	Sea.-St.L.	0	0	15	0.0	15	0
Cox	T.B.	0	0	9	0.0	9	0
Marshall	Car.	2	0	-1	-0.5	0	0

Excludes players with fewer than two combined returns and fair catches and less than three yards gained.

## AFC FIELD GOALS

	Team	1-19 Yds	20-29 Yds	30-39 Yds	40-49 Yds	50 or Longer	Total	Avg Yds Att	Avg Yds Made	Avg Yds Miss	Lg
Stover	Balt.	0-0 .000	12-13 .923	9-9 1.000	6-7 .857	1-1 1.000	28-30 .933	33.2	33.0	35.5	52
Elam	Den.	0-0 .000	10-10 1.000	10-10 1.000	6-8 .750	1-1 1.000	27-29 .931	33.3	32.6	43.5	51
Lindell	Buff.	0-0 .000	8-8 1.000	5-5 1.000	8-10 .800	2-2 1.000	23-25 .920	35.9	35.3	42.5	53
Kaeding	S.D.	0-0 .000	7-7 1.000	11-12 .917	7-9 .778	1-1 1.000	26-29 .897	35.8	35.2	41.0	54
Vinatieri	Ind.	1-1 1.000	3-3 1.000	12-13 .923	9-10 .900	0-1 .000	25-28 .893	36.6	35.5	45.3	48
Nugent	N.Y.J.	1-1 1.000	7-7 1.000	10-12 .833	4-4 1.000	2-3 .667	24-27 .889	33.8	33.2	38.7	54
Graham	Cin.	0-0 .000	9-9 1.000	8-9 .889	6-8 .750	2-4 .500	25-30 .833	36.9	34.6	48.4	51
Scobee	Jax.	0-0 .000	5-6 .833	7-7 1.000	14-18 .778	0-1 .000	26-32 .813	39.0	37.8	44.2	48
Bironas	Ten.	0-0 .000	10-11 .909	7-7 1.000	4-8 .500	1-2 .500	22-28 .786	34.4	32.5	41.7	60
Tynes	K.C.	1-1 1.000	10-10 1.000	4-6 .667	7-10 .700	2-4 .500	24-31 .774	36.9	35.1	43.1	53
Gostkowski	N.E.	0-0 .000	10-11 .909	7-10 .700	2-4 .500	1-1 1.000	20-26 .769	32.7	30.9	38.7	52
K. Brown	Hou.	1-1 1.000	4-4 1.000	3-5 .600	11-13 .846	0-2 .000	19-25 .760	39.4	37.9	44.0	49
Reed	Pitt.	1-1 1.000	6-7 .857	8-11 .727	4-7 .571	1-1 1.000	20-27 .741	35.6	35.0	37.4	50
Dawson	Clev.	0-0 .000	5-6 .833	9-10 .900	6-12 .500	1-1 1.000	21-29 .724	36.7	34.9	41.5	51
Mare	Mia.	0-0 .000	10-10 1.000	6-8 .750	9-12 .750	1-6 .167	26-36 .722	37.1	34.1	45.1	52
Janikowski	Oak.	1-1 1.000	2-3 .667	9-11 .818	3-3 1.000	3-7 .429	18-25 .720	38.9	36.8	44.4	55

## NFC FIELD GOALS

	Team	1-19 Yds	20-29 Yds	30-39 Yds	40-49 Yds	50 or Longer	Total	Avg Yds Att	Avg Yds Made	Avg Yds Miss	Lg
Carney	N.O.	1-1 1.000	9-9 1.000	7-8 .875	5-6 .833	1-1 1.000	23-25 .920	32.4	32.0	37.5	51
Gould	Chi.	0-0 .000	6-6 1.000	14-16 .875	12-14 .857	0-0 .000	32-36 .889	36.8	36.2	42.0	49
Kasay	Car.	2-2 1.000	6-6 1.000	4-4 1.000	8-8 1.000	4-7 .571	24-27 .889	38.9	36.8	56.0	54
Hanson	Det.	1-1 1.000	12-12 1.000	6-6 1.000	7-8 .875	3-6 .500	29-33 .879	36.3	34.4	50.0	53
Andersen	Atl.	0-0 .000	7-8 .875	6-6 .875	7-8 .875	0-1 .000	20-23 .870	34.3	33.4	40.0	45
Wilkins	St.L.	1-1 1.000	11-11 1.000	6-6 1.000	11-16 .688	3-3 1.000	32-37 .865	36.8	35.5	45.2	53
Feely	N.Y.G.	0-0 .000	7-7 1.000	10-11 .909	6-8 .750	0-1 .000	23-27 .852	34.4	32.9	43.0	47
Longwell	Minn.	2-2 1.000	7-7 1.000	8-8 1.000	4-6 .667	0-2 .000	21-25 .840	33.6	30.4	50.0	49
Nedney	S.F.	2-2 1.000	11-12 .917	8-10 .800	7-9 .778	1-2 .500	29-35 .829	34.3	33.2	39.5	51
Brown	Sea.	0-0 .000	10-10 1.000	5-7 .714	7-7 .778	3-5 .600	25-31 .807	36.2	34.9	41.8	54
Akers	Phil.	0-0 .000	9-10 .900	3-5 .600	6-8 .750	0-0 .000	18-23 .783	34.3	33.0	39.0	47
Bryant	T.B.	0-0 .000	8-8 1.000	3-3 1.000	5-9 .556	1-2 .500	17-22 .773	36.7	34.2	45.2	62
Rackers	Ariz.	0-0 .000	11-11 1.000	9-9 1.000	7-10 .700	1-7 .143	28-37 .757	37.6	34.0	48.9	50
Rayner	G.B.	0-0 .000	11-12 .917	6-9 .667	8-11 .727	1-3 .333	28-35 .743	35.7	34.0	40.9	54
Vanderjagt	Dall.	0-0 .000	6-7 .857	5-6 .833	1-4 .250	1-1 1.000	13-18 .722	34.0	31.8	39.6	50
NON-QUALIFIERS											
Hall	Wash.	0-0 .000	3-3 1.000	4-4 1.000	2-4 .500	0-0 .000	9-11 .818	37.1	35.3	45.0	46
Suisham	Dal-Was.	0-0 .000	1-1 1.000	6-7 .857	1-1 1.000	1-2 .500	9-11 .818	37.2	35.9	43.0	52
Gramatica	Ind.-Dal.	0-0 .000	2-2 1.000	2-2 1.000	3-5 .600	0-0 .000	7-9 .778	37.8	36.1	43.5	48
Novak	Wash.	0-0 .000	1-1 1.000	1-3 .333	3-6 .500	0-0 .000	5-10 .500	41.2	38.8	43.6	47
Koenen	Atl.	0-0 .000	1-1 1.000	1-4 .250	0-1 .000	1-3 .333	3-9 .250	38.2	36.0	39.3	51



## AFC SACKS

Team	No
Merriman S.D.	17.0
Schobel Buff.	14.0
Taylor Mia.	13.5
Pryce Balt.	13.0
Phillips S.D.	11.5
Burgess Oak.	11.0
A. Thomas Balt.	11.0
Wimbley Clev.	11.0
Geathers Cin.	10.5
McCray Jax.	10.0
Sapp Oak.	10.0
Mathis Ind.	9.5
Scott Balt.	9.5
Suggs Balt.	9.5
Colvin N.E.	8.5
Dumervil Den.	8.5
Thomas N.Y.J.	8.5
Hali K.C.	8.0
Allen K.C.	7.5
Green N.E.	7.5
J. Smith Cin.	7.5
Warren N.E.	7.5
Castillo S.D.	7.0
Ekuban Den.	7.0
Holliday Mia.	7.0
Porter Pitt.	7.0
Vanden Bosch Ten.	6.5
Denney Buff.	6.0
Haggans Pitt.	6.0
Hobson N.Y.J.	6.0
Lang Den.	6.0
Banta-Cain N.E.	5.5
Carter Mia.	5.5
Freaney Ind.	5.5
Keisel Pitt.	5.5
Kelsay Buff.	5.5
Babin Hou.	5.0
Bowens Mia.	5.0
Ellis N.Y.J.	5.0
R. Lewis Balt.	5.0
Meier Jax.	5.0
Rhodes N.Y.J.	5.0
Barton N.Y.J.	4.5
Chukwurah Den.	4.5
Fraser Clev.	4.5
D. Johnson K.C.	4.5
Aa. Smith Pitt.	4.5
Vrabel N.E.	4.5
Williams Hou.	4.5
Cesaire S.D.	4.0
Farrior Pitt.	4.0
Footte Pitt.	4.0
Godfrey S.D.	4.0
Kaesviharn Cin.	4.0
McGinest Clev.	4.0
Seymour N.E.	4.0
Team Buff.	4.0
Traylor Mia.	4.0
Gregg Balt.	3.5

Henderson Jax.	3.5
Kelly Oak.	3.5
LaBoy Ten.	3.5
Roth Mia.	3.5
Ryans Hou.	3.5
Brock Ind.	3.0
Harris S.D.	3.0
Landry Balt.	3.0
Robinson Cin.	3.0
Smith Jax.	3.0
Spicer Jax.	3.0
Starks Ten.	3.0
Thomas Mia.	3.0
Bulluck Ten.	2.5
Cooper S.D.	2.5
Edwards K.C.	2.5
Edwards S.D.	2.5
Huntley Oak.	2.5
McFarland Ind.	2.5
Peko Cin.	2.5
Robertson N.Y.J.	2.5
Stroud Jax.	2.5
Tripplett Buff.	2.5
Warren Den.	2.5
Adams Cin.	2.0
Bell Mia.	2.0
Carter Pitt.	2.0
Crowell Buff.	2.0
Earl Hou.	2.0
Finnegan Ten.	2.0
Fletcher-Baker Buff.	2.0
Hawkins Jax.	2.0
Haynesworth Ten.	2.0
Ivy Balt.	2.0
Johnstone Oak.	2.0
Kalu Hou.	2.0
Kirschke Pitt.	2.0
Knight K.C.	2.0
Maddox Hou.	2.0
M. Myers Den.	2.0
Pettway Jax.	2.0
Polk S.D.	2.0
Thompson Clev.	2.0
Thornton Cin.	2.0
Townsend Pitt.	2.0
Williams S.D.	2.0
Bingham S.D.	1.5
T. Brown Ten.	1.5
Bruschi N.E.	1.5
Hargrove St.L.-Buff.	1.5
Ingram Jax.	1.5
J. Johnson Balt.	1.5
Mitchell K.C.	1.5
Olshansky S.D.	1.5
Orr Hou.	1.5
Robinson S.D.	1.5
Spragan Mia.	1.5
Veal Den.	1.5
W. Allen Mia.	1.0
Asomugha Oak.	1.0
Bell K.C.	1.0
Bockwoldt Ten.	1.0
A. Brooks Cin.	1.0
C.C. Brown Hou.	1.0
C. Brown Pitt.	1.0
D. Coleman N.Y.J.	1.0
Crowder Mia.	1.0
Dalton Hou.	1.0
Davis Clev.	1.0
Ellison Buff.	1.0
Engelberger Den.	1.0
Faggins Hou.	1.0
Fox K.C.	1.0
Gilbert Jax.	1.0
Greenwood Hou.	1.0
Harrison N.E.	1.0
Jackson Cin.	1.0
P. Jones Ten.	1.0
June Ind.	1.0
Law K.C.	1.0
Mahelona Ten.	1.0
McCree S.D.	1.0
McDaniel Jax.	1.0
McKinley Clev.	1.0
Miller Cin.	1.0
Morrison Oak.	1.0
Mosley N.Y.J.	1.0
Ngata Balt.	1.0
Page K.C.	1.0
Payne Hou.	1.0
Peek Hou.	1.0
Polamalu Pitt.	1.0
Pool Clev.	1.0
Poole Oak.	1.0
Reagar Ind.	1.0
Reed K.C.	1.0
Rolle Balt.	1.0
Roye Clev.	1.0
Sanders N.E.	1.0
Sands Oak.	1.0
Seau N.E.	1.0
Simpson Buff.	1.0
Spikes Buff.	1.0
Stewart Clev.	1.0
Surtain K.C.	1.0
Thomas Ind.	1.0
von Oelhoffen N.Y.J.	1.0
Weaver Hou.	1.0
Wilfork N.E.	1.0
D.J. Williams Den.	1.0
S. Williams Oak.	1.0
Williams Clev.	1.0
Wilson Den.	1.0
Wright N.E.	1.0
L. Johnson Cin.	.5
Jones Clev.	.5
Malone Hou.	.5
Odum Ten.	.5
Schobel Ind.	.5
Sirmon Ten.	.5
R. Smith Ten.	.5
Stanley Jax.	.5
Tulloch Ten.	.5
R. Washington N.Y.J.	.5

## NFC SACKS

Team	No
Kampman G.B.	15.5
Little St.L.	13.0
Peppers Car.	13.0
Anderson Chi.	12.0
Ware Dall.	11.5
Smith N.O.	10.5
Peterson Sea.	10.0
Okeator Ariz.	8.5
T. Cole Phil.	8.0
Dansby Ariz.	8.0
Redding Det.	8.0
A. Brown Chi.	7.0
Williams G.B.	7.0
Jenkins G.B.	6.5
Moore S.F.	6.5
Ogunleye Chi.	6.5
Berry Ariz.	6.0
Carter Wash.	6.0
Coleman Atl.	6.0
Gbaja-Biamila G.B.	6.0
Grant N.O.	6.0
J. Thomas Phil.	6.0
Umenyiora N.Y.G.	6.0
Dolker Phil.	6.0
Draft Car.	5.5
Glover St.L.	5.5
Robbins N.Y.G.	5.5
Scott Minn.	5.5
Young N.O.	5.5
Young S.F.	5.5
Hall Det.	5.0
T. Harris Chi.	5.0
Howard Phil.	5.0
Rucker Car.	5.0
Spikes T.B.	5.0
White T.B.	5.0
K. Williams Minn.	5.0
Wilson Ariz.	5.0
Wynms T.B.	5.0
Ellis Dall.	4.5
R. Green S.F.	4.5
Kerney Atl.	4.5
Lewis Car.	4.5
Abraham Atl.	4.0
K. Coleman Dall.	4.0
Fisher Sea.	4.0
Kiwanuka N.Y.G.	4.0
Mallard Atl.	4.0
Ratiff Dall.	4.0
Shanle N.O.	4.0
Wistrom Sea.	4.0
Bernard Sea.	3.5
Darby Sea.	3.5
Fujita N.O.	3.5
Hawk G.B.	3.5
Ta. Johnson Chi.	3.5
Kearse Phil.	3.5
H. Thomas N.O.	3.5
Boley Atl.	3.0
Carrington Atl.	3.0
Daniels Wash.	3.0
Davis Sea.	3.0
Douglas S.F.	3.0

Edwards Det.	3.0
R. Edwards Minn.	3.0
Henderson Minn.	3.0
Jenkins Car.	3.0
Leber Minn.	3.0
Mitchell Minn.	3.0
S. Rogers Det.	3.0
Strahan N.Y.G.	3.0
Tapp Sea.	3.0
Terrill Sea.	3.0
Wallace Car.	3.0
Witherspoon St.L.	3.0
Brooking Atl.	2.5
Harris Minn.	2.5
Hatcher Dall.	2.5
Lawson S.F.	2.5
Quarles T.B.	2.5
Smith Ariz.	2.5
Washington Wash.	2.5
C. Williams S.F.	2.5
A. Adams S.F.	2.0
Anderson Car.	2.0
Barnett G.B.	2.0
Boone Chi.	2.0
Chillar St.L.	2.0
Cooper Ariz.	2.0
Dockett Ariz.	2.0
Evans Wash.	2.0
Hamlin Sea.	2.0
Hill Sea.	2.0
Hovan T.B.	2.0
T. Jackson Det.	2.0
Joseph N.Y.G.	2.0
M. Lewis Phil.	2.0
R. Manning Chi.	2.0
M. McCoy Phil.	2.0
Milloy Atl.	2.0
Rice T.B.	2.0
Short N.Y.G.	2.0
C. Smith Det.	2.0
Spencer S.F.	2.0
Tinoisamoa St.L.	2.0
Carpenter Dall.	1.5
Cofield N.Y.G.	1.5
Considine Phil.	1.5
T. Davis Car.	1.5
Marshall Wash.	1.5
Montgomery G.B.	1.5
Nece T.B.	1.5
Patterson Phil.	1.5
R. Smith St.L.	1.5
Sopoaga S.F.	1.5
Tatupu Sea.	1.5
Adeyanju St.L.	1.0
Archuleta Wash.	1.0
Arrington N.Y.G.	1.0
Atogwe St.L.	1.0
Awasom N.Y.G.	1.0
Ayodele Dall.	1.0
Babineaux Atl.	1.0
Bailey Det.	1.0
Bell Det.	1.0
Bolden T.B.	1.0
Bowen Dall.	1.0
Briggs Chi.	1.0
Brown St.L.	1.0
Bullocks Det.	1.0
Burnett Dall.	1.0
Canty Dall.	1.0
Carroll G.B.-Jax.	1.0
Chavous St.L.	1.0
Clancy Ariz.	1.0
Cole G.B.	1.0
J. Cooper N.O.	1.0
Crocker Atl.	1.0
Davis Atl.	1.0
Dawkins Phil.	1.0
Demps N.Y.G.	1.0
Emmons N.Y.G.	1.0
Gaither Phil.	1.0
Gamble Car.	1.0
Griffin Wash.	1.0
Harper N.O.	1.0
H. Harris S.F.	1.0
Hartwell Atl.	1.0
Hayes Ariz.	1.0
Holdman Wash.	1.0
Hood Phil.	1.0
T.J. Jackson Atl.	1.0
Kennedy St.L.	1.0
Kennedy Det.	1.0
Lake N.O.	1.0
Lewis Sea.	1.0
Lewis S.F.	1.0
Marshall Car.	1.0
Mathis Atl.	1.0
McDougle Phil.	1.0
McQuarters N.Y.G.	1.0
Oliver S.F.	1.0
Pace Ariz.	1.0
Phillips T.B.	1.0
Pierce N.Y.G.	1.0
Poppinga G.B.	1.0
Roman S.F.	1.0
Sharper Minn.	1.0
Shropshire Atl.	1.0
Simoneau N.O.	1.0
Singleton Dall.	1.0
D. Smith Minn.	1.0
Spears Dall.	1.0
Team Car.	1.0
Team Det.	1.0
Team Minn.	1.0
Thomas Minn.	1.0
Torbor N.Y.G.	1.0
Watson Ariz.	1.0
Webster N.Y.G.	1.0
Whitehead N.O.	1.0
P. Williams Minn.	1.0
D. Williams Atl.	1.0
Woodson G.B.	1.0
Worrell Chi.	1.0
Wroten St.L.	1.0
Golston Wash.	.5
Green St.L.	.5
Holt Det.	.5
Jones Phil.	.5
Montgomery Wash.	.5
Moorehead Car.	.5
Sims Det.	.5
Tubbs Sea.	.5

## AFC PUNTING

Team	No	Yds	Lg	Gross Avg	TS	Ins 20	Bik	Ret	Ret Yds	Net Avg
Colquitt K.C.	71	3,145	72	44.3	5	23	0	32	254	39.3
Moorman Buff.	92	4,012	66	43.6	7	33	0	36	265	39.2
Larson Cin.	77	3,428	67	44.5	11	26	0	42	236	38.6
Zastudil Clev.	81	3,563	61	44.0	7	28	0	43	312	38.4
Scifres S.D.	69	2,893	71	41.9	2	35	0	27	216	38.2
Graham N.Y.J.	72	3,182	69	44.2	11	26	1	28	205	37.8
Koch Balt.	86	3,695	61	43.0	3	30	0	44	404	37.6
Hentrich Ten.	88	3,760	73	42.7	10	32	0	33	278	37.3
Gardocki Pitt.	65	2,687	56	41.3	4	11	0	38	219	36.7
Stanley Hou.	76	3,161	62	41.6	5	15	0	36	275	36.7
Ernst Den.	80	3,338	61	41.7	7	23	0	39	268	36.6
Lechler Oak.	77	3,660	67	47.5	19	19	1	34	437	36.4
Miller N.E.	43	1,848	62	43.0	7	12	0	18	169	35.8
Jones Mia.	85	3,640	64	42.8	10	28	1	49	367	35.7
Smith Ind.	47	2,085	61	44.4	5	14	1	25	327	34.5
Hanson Jax.	72	2,920	58	40.6	7	20	1	29	343	33.4
NON-QUALIFIERS										
Walter N.E.	16	591	47	36.9	0	5	0	7	52	33.7
Tynes K.C.	1	33	0	33.0	0	1	0	0	0	33.0
Sauerbrun N.E.	10	408	58	40.8	0	2	0	4	101	30.7
Pennington N.Y.J.	1	29	29	29.0	0	1	0	0	0	29.0
Dawson Clev.	2	58	31	29.0	1	1	0	0	0	19.0

## NFC PUNTING

	Team	No	Yds	Lg	Gross Avg	Ins 20	Bik	Ret	Ret Yds	Net Avg	
Baker	Car.	98	4,483	70	45.7	12	31	1	60	382	39.0
McBriar	Dall.	56	2,697	75	48.2	10	22	0	31	334	38.6
Turk	St.L.	72	3,132	74	43.5	5	26	1	26	239	38.3
N. Harris	Det.	66	2,967	67	45.0	9	18	0	38	267	38.2
Maynard	Chi.	77	3,404	65	44.2	7	24	0	38	367	37.6
Weatherford	N.O.	77	3,369	59	43.8	10	19	0	40	279	37.5
Plackemeier	Sea.	84	3,778	72	45.0	15	25	0	38	343	37.3
Feagles	N.Y.G.	77	3,098	54	40.2	3	27	0	33	191	37.0
Lee	S.F.	81	3,625	66	44.8	9	22	0	35	462	36.8
Bidwell	T.B.	93	4,045	59	43.5	7	20	0	50	487	36.8
Frost	Wash.	81	3,471	60	42.9	7	27	1	45	319	36.7
Koenen	Atl.	76	3,199	65	42.1	6	25	2	25	279	35.9
Ryan	G.B.	84	3,739	66	44.5	12	17	0	55	503	35.7
Kluwe	Minn.	93	3,934	68	42.3	7	28	0	50	485	35.6
Johnson	Phil.	78	3,326	60	42.6	11	21	0	41	380	34.9
Player	Ariz.	66	2,965	58	44.9	3	18	2	44	562	34.5
NON-QUALIFIERS											
Wilkins	St.L.	3	91	33	30.3	0	3	0	1	8	27.7
Longwell	Minn.	1	27	27	27.0	0	1	0	0	0	27.0
Brown	Sea.	2	49	28	24.5	0	1	0	1	0	24.5
Kasay	Car.	1	25	25	25.0	0	0	0	1	8	17.0



# NFL WEEKLY SCHEDULE

ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN

## Week One

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

New Orleans at Indianapolis, 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

Atlanta at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
 Carolina at St. Louis, 1 p.m.  
 Denver at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 Kansas City at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 New England at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Chicago at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.  
 Detroit at Oakland, 4:15 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Seattle, 4:15 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 10

Baltimore at Cincinnati, 7 p.m.  
 Arizona at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

## Week Two

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16

Atlanta at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Buffalo at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
 Cincinnati at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Green Bay at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at St. Louis, 1 p.m.  
 Dallas at Miami, 4:05 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Detroit, 4:05 p.m.  
 Seattle at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Kansas City at Chicago, 4:15 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Baltimore, 4:15 p.m.  
 Oakland at Denver, 4:15 p.m.  
 San Diego at New England, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 17

Washington at Philadelphia, 8:30 p.m.

## Week Three

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23

Arizona at Baltimore, 1 p.m.  
 Buffalo at New England, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 San Diego at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Cincinnati at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.  
 Cleveland at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Denver, 4:05 p.m.  
 Carolina at Atlanta, 4:15 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Washington, 4:15 p.m.  
 Dallas at Chicago, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPT. 24

Tennessee at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.

## Week Four

BYES: Jacksonville, New Orleans, Tennessee, Washington

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

Baltimore at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Chicago at Detroit, 1 p.m.  
 Green Bay at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 Oakland at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Dallas, 1 p.m.  
 Seattle at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Carolina, 4:05 p.m.  
 Denver at Indianapolis, 4:15 p.m.  
 Kansas City at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 1

New England at Cincinnati, 8:30 p.m.

## Week Five

BYES: Cincinnati, Minnesota, Oakland, Philadelphia

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

Arizona at St. Louis, 1 p.m.  
 Atlanta at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 Carolina at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 Cleveland at New England, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at Houston, 1 p.m.

N.Y. Jets at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.  
 Seattle at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Indianapolis, 4:05 p.m.  
 Baltimore at San Francisco, 4:15 p.m.  
 San Diego at Denver, 4:15 p.m.  
 Chicago at Green Bay, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 8

Dallas at Buffalo, 8:30 p.m.

## Week Six

BYES: Buffalo, Denver, Detroit, Indianapolis, Pittsburgh, San Francisco

SUNDAY, OCT. 14

Cincinnati at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Baltimore, 1 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Washington at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Carolina at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 New England at Dallas, 4:15 p.m.  
 Oakland at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.  
 New Orleans at Seattle, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 15

N.Y. Giants at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.

## Week Seven

BYES: Carolina, Cleveland, Green Bay, San Diego

SUNDAY, OCT. 21

Arizona at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 Atlanta at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 Baltimore at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Dallas, 1 p.m.  
 New England at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 Kansas City at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Cincinnati, 4:05 p.m.  
 Chicago at Philadelphia, 4:15 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Seattle, 4:15 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at Denver, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 22

Indianapolis at Jacksonville, 8:30 p.m.

## Week Eight

BYES: Arizona, Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Kansas City, Seattle

SUNDAY, OCT. 28

Cleveland at St. Louis, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Miami (London), 1 p.m.  
 Oakland at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 4:05 p.m.  
 Houston at San Diego, 4:05 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Tampa Bay, 4:05 p.m.  
 New Orleans at San Francisco, 4:15 p.m.  
 Washington at New England, 4:15 p.m.

MONDAY, OCT. 29

Green Bay at Denver, 8:30 p.m.

## Week Nine

BYES: Chicago, Miami, N.Y. Giants, St. Louis

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

Arizona at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Carolina at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 Cincinnati at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 Denver at Detroit, 1 p.m.  
 Green Bay at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 San Diego at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
 Washington at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 Seattle at Cleveland, 4:05 p.m.  
 Houston at Oakland, 4:15 p.m.  
 New England at Indianapolis, 4:15 p.m.  
 Dallas at Philadelphia, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, NOV. 5

Baltimore at Pittsburgh, 8:30 p.m.

## Week 10

BYES: Houston, New England, N.Y. Jets, Tampa Bay

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Buffalo at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.

Denver at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 St. Louis at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 Cincinnati at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m.  
 Chicago at Oakland, 4:15 p.m.  
 Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 4:15 p.m.  
 Detroit at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at San Diego, 8:15 p.m.

MONDAY, NOV. 12

San Francisco at Seattle, 8:30 p.m.

## Week 11

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

Arizona at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Carolina at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Cleveland at Baltimore, 1 p.m.  
 Kansas City at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.  
 New England at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 New Orleans at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 Oakland at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.  
 San Diego at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
 Washington at Dallas, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Detroit, 4:15 p.m.  
 St. Louis at San Francisco, 4:15 p.m.  
 Chicago at Seattle, 8:15 p.m.\*

MONDAY, NOV. 19

Tennessee at Denver, 8:30 p.m.

## Week 12

THURSDAY, NOV. 22

Green Bay at Detroit, 12:30 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Dallas, 4:15 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Atlanta, 8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOV. 25

Buffalo at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Denver at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.  
 New Orleans at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Oakland at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 Seattle at St. Louis, 1 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Washington at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Baltimore at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at New England, 8:15 p.m.\*

MONDAY, NOV. 26

Miami at Pittsburgh, 8:30 p.m.

## Week 13

THURSDAY, NOV. 29

Green Bay at Dallas, 8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

Atlanta at St. Louis, 1 p.m.  
 Buffalo at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 San Diego at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 Seattle at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 Cleveland at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Denver at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Chicago, 4:15 p.m.  
 Cincinnati at Pittsburgh, 8:15 p.m.\*

MONDAY, DEC. 3

New England at Baltimore, 8:30 p.m.

## Week 14

THURSDAY, DEC. 6

Chicago at Washington, 8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

Carolina at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Dallas at Detroit, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.  
 Oakland at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at New England, 1 p.m.  
 San Diego at Tennessee, 1 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 Arizona at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.  
 Minnesota at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.  
 Cleveland at N.Y. Jets, 4:15 p.m.  
 Kansas City at Denver, 4:15 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m.\*

MONDAY, DEC. 10

New Orleans at Atlanta, 8:30 p.m.

## Week 15

THURSDAY, DEC. 13

Denver at Houston, 8:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15

Cincinnati at San Francisco, 8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 16

Arizona at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 Atlanta at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Baltimore at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 Buffalo at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Green Bay at St. Louis, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at New England, 1 p.m.  
 Seattle at Carolina, 1 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Kansas City, 1 p.m.  
 Indianapolis at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.  
 Detroit at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at Dallas, 4:15 p.m.  
 Washington at N.Y. Giants, 8:15 p.m.\*

MONDAY, DEC. 17

Chicago at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.

## Week 16

THURSDAY, DEC. 20

Pittsburgh at St. Louis, 8:15 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

Dallas at Carolina, 8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 23

Cleveland at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.  
 Green Bay at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.  
 Kansas City at Detroit, 1 p.m.  
 Miami at New England, 1 p.m.  
 N.Y. Giants at Buffalo, 1 p.m.  
 Oakland at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at New Orleans, 1 p.m.  
 Washington at Minnesota, 1 p.m.  
 Atlanta at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.  
 Baltimore at Seattle, 4:15 p.m.  
 N.Y. Jets at Tennessee, 4:15 p.m.  
 Tampa Bay at San Francisco, 8:15 p.m.\*

MONDAY, DEC. 24

Denver at San Diego, 8 p.m.

## Week 17

SATURDAY, DEC. 29

New England at N.Y. Giants, 8:15 p.m.

SUNDAY, DEC. 30

Buffalo at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.  
 Carolina at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Cincinnati at Miami, 1 p.m.  
 Dallas at Washington, 1 p.m.  
 Detroit at Green Bay, 1 p.m.  
 Jacksonville at Houston, 1 p.m.  
 New Orleans at Chicago, 1 p.m.  
 Pittsburgh at Baltimore, 1 p.m.  
 Seattle at Atlanta, 1 p.m.  
 San Francisco at Cleveland, 1 p.m.  
 Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Denver, 4:15 p.m.  
 San Diego at Oakland, 4:15 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Arizona, 4:15 p.m.  
 Kansas City at N.Y. Jets, 8:15 p.m.\*

\* — Flexible schedule: Sunday-night games in Weeks 11-17 subject to change.

## Postseason

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

AFC and NFC wild-card playoffs

SUNDAY, JAN. 6

AFC and NFC wild-card playoffs

SATURDAY, JAN. 12

AFC and NFC divisional playoffs

SUNDAY, JAN. 13

AFC and NFC divisional playoffs

SUNDAY, JAN. 20

AFC and NFC championship games

SUNDAY, FEB. 3

Super Bowl XLII  
 at University of Phoenix Stadium,  
 Glendale, Ariz.

SUNDAY, FEB. 10

Pro Bowl at Honolulu, Hawaii



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